The Middlebury Campus

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COLLEGE SUSPENDS ON-CAMPUS CLASSES INDEFINITELY

Mid-semester change prompted by growing coronavirus concerns; students will attend classes remotely following extended two-week spring break

By BOCHU DING & CAROLINE KAPP
Managing Editor & Senior News Editor

Students will be required to leave campus on Friday, March 13 to begin an extended two-week spring break in response to the Covid-19 viral epidemic, President Laurie Patton announced in an email on Tuesday. Following this break, Middlebury will begin remote classes on March 30. Students will be expected not to return to campus "until further notice," according to Patton's statement.

Students who may be compromised due to additional health conditions are permitted to leave campus before Friday. Those who cannot leave campus — such as some international students and domestic students who will be at a greater risk in their home community — can petition the school to remain on campus, where they will also resume courses digitally.

The college released a series of statements Tuesday afternoon elaborating on next steps following the announcement.

Evacuating campus

Students must respond to a form indicating whether they will leave campus or petition to remain on campus for the duration of the semester. The criteria used to determine who can stay on campus will be stricter than for winter break, according to Baishakhi Taylor, vice president for student affairs and dean of students. To gauge whether it is unsafe for a student to return home, the college will consider factors such as travel advisories for those areas.

"This is preventative — we want students in safety sooner rather than later," said Baishakhi Taylor, vice president for student affairs and dean of students.

Dean of Faculty Sujata Moorti and Provost and Executive Vice President Jeffrey Cason have recommended that professors lighten the workload for their classes as students prepare to leave campus. But the decision ultimately rests in the hands of faculty members.

Middlebury students are required to leave campus by Friday at 8 p.m. Amherst College, which yesterday announced a similar plan to suspend classes and asked students to remain home after spring break, is giving students until next Wednesday to depart campus.

While departing students will not be required to fully move out of their dorm rooms by Friday night, all of their belongings must be packed in boxes and labeled with their name, student ID number and their building name and room number. Boxing materials can be found in Commons

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BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Students sat outside of Proctor Dining Hall on March 9 enjoying the warm weather. Panic swept across campus starting the following morning as information began to leak about the suspension of classes.

COURTESY OF KIERA DOWELL

Middlebury mourns loss of Will Nash '20

By JAMES FINN
Managing Editor

Will Nash '20, an economics major from San Anselmo, California, died early Saturday morning after experiencing a "reaction related to drug use," according to a statement sent to the Middlebury community by President Laurie Patton later that day. He was 21.

The Middlebury Police Department (MPD) received a call from the college's Department of Public Safety at 3:57 a.m. Saturday asking for assistance with a student who "was exhibiting unusual behavior," according to a press release written by MPD Sgt. Michael Christopher. Officers determined that Nash, the student in question, "may [have been] experiencing a medical event." Nash was subsequently transported to Porter Hospital by Middlebury Regional Emergency Medical Services (MREMS), where he was pronounced dead.

An autopsy is pending and an investigation ongoing, Christopher wrote in the press release.

Nash, who lived in Atwater Hall this year, was a Spanish minor and studied abroad in Madrid, Spain in the fall of his junior year. He was a pole vaulter on the men's track team through his sophomore year. He and a friend founded their own streetwear company, Semiaquatics, in November, producing sustainably-sourced hoodies, T-shirts, sweaters and skateboards.

Patton's email said that Nash is survived by his parents, Kristin and Lenny Nash; his twin brother, Drew Nash, a senior at Wake Forest University; and his sister Catie, a sophomore at the University of California, Berkeley.

A memorial service was held for close friends and members of Nash's family in Wilson Hall on Wednesday, March 11. The service was streamed online and in Dana Auditorium.

The Campus plans to publish an obituary of Will Nash with commentary from his family, friends and peers. If you were close to him and would like to share memories of Nash for publication, please email The Campus at campus@middlebury.edu.

Booze buyout

BevCo sees long lines, massive sales after classes suspended

By BENJAMIN GLASS
Senior Local Editor

Middlebury Discount Beverage Owner Joe Cotroneo heard something unusual from a customer on Tuesday at noon.

"I was going to sit down and do paperwork when one kid came in," Cotroneo said. "He said, 'You're going to get slammed, the College is ending classes.'"

He was right.

In the immediate wake of the college's announcement that it was transitioning to remote learning after an extended March break following Covid-19 concerns, Discount Beverage saw customer sales increase to 50–60% higher than normal, according to store management.

"It was insane for two hours straight," Cotroneo said. "There was a line all the way back to the cooler."

Within the two hours after the college announced the scheduling changes, Cotroneo said he sold out of 30-count packages of Keystone Light Lager Beer, which is heavily stocked at the store. Cotroneo also sold a handful of kegs, and said that packages of White Claw Hard Seltzer were also popular. "I've been working a lot on Friday and Saturday nights, and it felt like that, but it's a Tuesday at 1 p.m."

Cotroneo, originally from the New York area, said he has never seen a sales spike like this in the 19 years he's been in charge of the store.

"I can't remember anything like this, nothing like a light switch," he said.

The Campus also reached out to Hannaford's Liquor Store about liquor sales, but they could not be reached for an interview.

BENJAMIN GLASS/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Students stocked up on drinks at Middlebury Discount Beverage after receiving an announcement from the college that classes will be remote for the remainder of the semester. Students, especially seniors, have been planning parties before leaving campus indefinitely.

Murray visit likely canceled amid coronavirus measures

By AMELIA POLLARD
Digital Director

In September, the Middlebury College Republicans set in motion plans to invite Charles Murray back to campus for a third visit, requiring hours of meetings with administrators and lengthy discussions about logistics. This week, those plans have ground to a halt.

All spring semester courses will be moved online beginning March 30 in light of the spreading global Covid-19 outbreak, the college announced Tuesday. Murray's talk, which was scheduled for March 31, will likely be cancelled as a result of the new steps, according to College Republicans Co-President Brendan Philbin '21.

Philbin says he has not yet conferred with members of the College Republicans as to whether they'll reschedule.

"From what we've seen, it doesn't seem like we'll even be back at school for March 31," he said. "If we do end up deciding we want to reschedule, it would be for the fall."

Murray, a controversial conservative writer who garnered national attention from works such as "The Bell Curve," visited the college in 2007 and 2017. The protests of his 2017 visit led to the injury of political science professor Allison Stanger, and catalyzed conversations about free speech on college campuses. Since the College Republicans announced Murray's planned return in a January op-ed, many of those conversations have been reignited. Before this week, students and faculty were planning to strike and hold teach-ins on the day of his talk.

Philbin said that Murray was notified promptly of the college's decision to move courses online and that the talk would likely be cancelled. He said that Murray wasn't surprised. In an interview with The Campus earlier this week, Murray expressed the expectation that the talk might be pushed, as colleges around the country took steps to protect students from the spreading virus.

"The Middlebury thing is way up in the air given the coronavirus situation," he said. "Given the number of things that are being cancelled—and we're only talking three weeks away? I'd say, that's pretty iffy right there."

The planning

With the College Republicans' annual budget of $415, financing Murray's talk proved a preliminary obstacle.

According to Murray, his speaker

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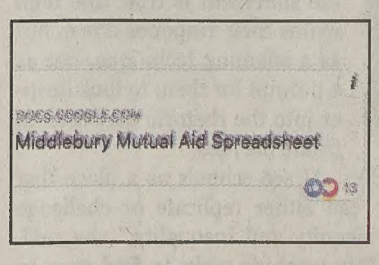

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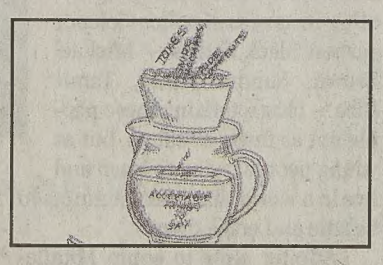

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Community comes together to offer mutual aid in response to coronavirus measures

By SOPHIA MCDERMOTT-HUGHES
Staff Writer

Students have created a "mutual aid spreadsheet" so that students, faculty, staff, community members and parents can help each other manage the logistical and emotional hurdles surrounding the college's indefinite suspension of classes due to coronavirus.

People can post in the document to request services, resources and shoulders to lean on.

By Tuesday night, dozens of people had already extended almost 100 offers of aid in the spreadsheet, including temporary housing throughout the country, long-term storage in Vermont, local meals and rides ranging from the Burlington airport to Tennessee. Several people posted their contact information for those seeking emotional and spiritual support.

"Is it your birthday while stuck on campus? I will bake you a (mini) cake!" wrote Stace Marshall, Assistant to the Vice President for College Advancement.

Diana Cotter, a 79-year-old Middlebury resident, offered students space in her studio apartment, despite concerns over her own fragile health and coronavirus risk.

The mutual aid spreadsheet was inspired by concern for the students most impacted by the sudden announcement.

"We were thinking about who this might really affect, like low income students, international students, and students who don't have homes they feel safe going to or don't have homes to return to," said Ami Furgang '20, one of the spreadsheet moderators. Cora Kircher '20 and Leif Taranta '20.5 are the other moderators. Taranta created the spreadsheet.

"We anticipated that, even if Middlebury did offer housing to students, people would definitely still fall through the cracks. So this is to fill up those cracks and beyond," Furgang said.

While Taranta encouraged students to share the spreadsheet widely, they asked that people use it with trust and respect and not share contact details or sensitive information revealed in people's posts. They encouraged those with privacy concerns to reach out to those who had already posted offers, or ask the moderators to anonymously request assistance on their behalf.

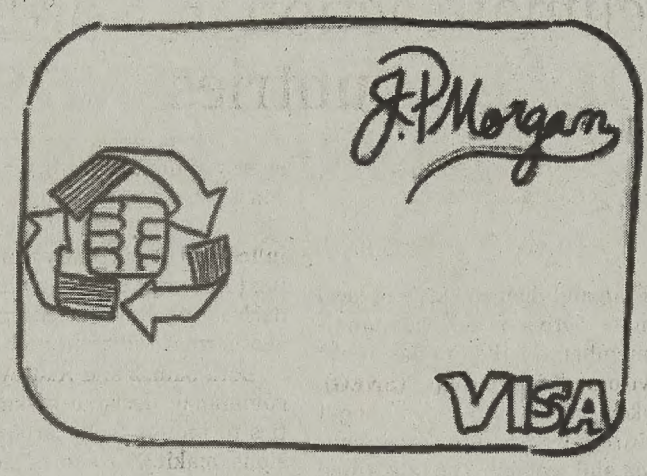
The spreadsheet is organized in tabs, including food, housing and transportation. People can post either offers or requests for aid in the appropriate columns. Taranta asked that people delete their offers and requests once they are fulfilled so that the spreadsheet can remain current and easily navigable.

The spreadsheet also hosts a list of Middlebury's recent announcements and instructions relating to the coronavirus situation as well as resources the college is currently offering to students.

"[I hope people] notice in this time of crisis how much potential we have to support each other," Furgang said.

The spreadsheet will remain operational throughout the semester and as long as people still need it, according to Taranta.

"Coronavirus is a crisis, but we are going to be facing even more crises as a community as the years go on," Taranta said. "[The mutual aid spreadsheet] is beyond trying to help our classmates and the people we care about now. It's also trying to build those systems and practices, so, as this continues to happen, we'll have that support network."



SARAH FAGAN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

College will look into contracting with more sustainable bank for P-cards

By NICOLE POLLACK
News Editor

Bill McKibben was arrested in a Chase Bank in Washington D.C. this February as part of an effort to stop big banks from funding the fossil fuel industry. The issue is closer to Middlebury than it might seem — the college currently contracts with Chase Bank, the world's largest lender to the fossil fuel industry, for its purchasing cards.

College purchasing cards enable faculty and staff to make purchases and pay for travel on behalf of the college. Purchasing cards are also used for some expenditures on behalf of student organizations.

When McKibben, a scholar in residence at the college, realized that Chase Bank provides Middlebury's purchasing cards — including McKibben's own card — he contacted David Provost, executive vice president for finance and administration, to ask about changing the contract. Provost immediately agreed to explore alternatives.

"I said, 'I am totally open to developing criteria that would align better with our mission,'" Provost said in an interview with The Campus.

Middlebury's existing contract for the purchasing cards is shared with the other institutions in the Green Mountain Higher Education Consortium, which includes Middlebury, Champlain College and Saint Michael's College. The contract expires in October 2021.

Provost noted that the college cannot break its contract without incurring significant penalties until then. But he said he supports doing a full request for proposal in the summer of 2021. The process of finding a new supplier will involve soliciting bids from other banks and determining Middlebury's new selection criteria.

Ahead of seeking a new contract, Provost asked McKibben to provide a list of banks that the Middlebury community would support and that have the capacity to handle Middlebury's national and international business.

McKibben told The Campus that the most suitable bank in the region is Amalgamated Bank, the largest union-owned bank in the United States, which is fully divested from fossil fuels. Amalgamated Bank issues Visa-branded purchasing cards.

The college has not made an official commitment to change banks to Amalgamated Bank, or any other bank, when the contract expires.

Provost expects that the other institutions in the consortium will follow Middlebury's lead in seeking a new provider. "We represent the highest part of the transactions," he said, referring to the college's spending on the purchasing cards. "They're benefiting from the rebate level because of our size."

McKibben hopes Middlebury will publicly announce its intention to divest its purchasing cards. "That would certainly help others move in the same direction," he said.

Trustee board moves toward Universal Design, adds second student constituent

By ABIGAIL CHANG
SGA Correspondent

The Middlebury Board of Trustees approved at their Winter Term meeting the use of universal design in the renovation of Warner Hall, a set of standards that goes beyond the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guideline. It also approved the addition of a second student constituent advisor (SSCA) to the board, applications for which will be solicited this spring.

Making Warner universally accessible

An item approved by the trustees will incorporate universal design into renovations ofWarner Hall which are slated to begin this summer. Universal design is based on the concept that a space should be accessible and should provide the same experience to all those who use it.

The Advisory Group on Disability Access and Inclusion (AGDAI), a group of students and faculty, advocated for the implementation of universal design when discussions of the renovation began two years ago. The school has consulted the AGDAI throughout the construction of the 75 Shannon Street building and during the ongoing renovations of Munroe Hall.

Mark Gleason, the co-chair of the AGDAI, explained that universal design differs from ADA compliance. One of the differences is that buildings with multiple floors must have an elevator in order to be ADA compliant, but are not required to have accessible bathrooms on every floor.

"Universal design goes a little bit further than that so that any individual's experience in getting into the building and using the building is as close to anybody else's as possible," Gleason said.

For the Warner Hall renovations, AGDAI pushed for an entrance on the south side of the building that is flush with the ground, eliminating the need for stairs or a ramp. Gleason said that, from what he has seen, that recommendation has been incorporated in the plans.

The college does not always take the group's suggestions. Gleason explained how AGDAI advocated for an accessible entrance on Munroe's eastern side, facing Voter Hall, but community members who need to use an elevator will need to use the north entrance, as both entrances on the east and west of the building will have stairs.

"I think Middlebury has come a long way towards understanding universal design," Gleason said. "I think it's got a ways to go to really say that, yes, we implement universal design on campus. But I think it's a process. There's a lot of discussions we have today that we wouldn't have had five years ago."

More student representation on the Board of Trustees

Formerly, the Student Government Association (SGA) President served as the sole student constituent advisor to the College Board of Advisors, one of three boards within the Board of Trustees. Varsha Vijayakumar '20, the current SGA president, explained that SGA has been working to add a SSCA to the College Board of Advisors for a few years. The initiative was spearheaded by Jin Sohn '18, former SGA president, and Ish Alam '18, Sohn's chief of staff from March to May 2018. Sohn and Alam sponsored a bill calling for the addition of a SSCA to what was then called the College Board of Overseers. The bill also recommended a two-year term for the SSCA and voting power for both constituent advisors.

Vijayakumar pitched the idea again during the Board of Trustees' October meeting. Since the SGA president constituent advisor only serves for one year, some trustees expressed a desire for greater continuity between student constituent advisors, Vijayakumar said. The SSCA's two-year term is intended to create that continuity.

She also noted the importance of including the voice of a student not involved in SGA to expand which topics are brought to the attention of the board. She explained how her time in SGA has given her an insight into why some initiatives take longer than others or why some are less feasible.

"And that's really great for many reasons, but also can sometimes dilute the amount of information that is shared with trustees," Vijayakumar said. "For example, I know that I implicitly prioritize certain agenda items based on what I think is most feasible or tangible to accomplish."

An email from the SGA to students last Thursday provided details about the position and a link to the application, which is open until noon on March 19. The three-member selection committee, made up of First-Year Senator Kaitlyn Velazquez '23, First-Year Senator Miguel Sanchez '23 and new Feb Senator Melisa Gurkan '23.5, was appointed during Sunday's SGA senate meeting, and is responsible for choosing three or four candidates from the applicant pool to present to the senate. SGA will recommend one applicant to the college by March 30.

Education studies professor talks new book: "Through the Fog: Towards Inclusive Anti-Racist Teaching."

By ROYA TOURAN
Contributing Writer

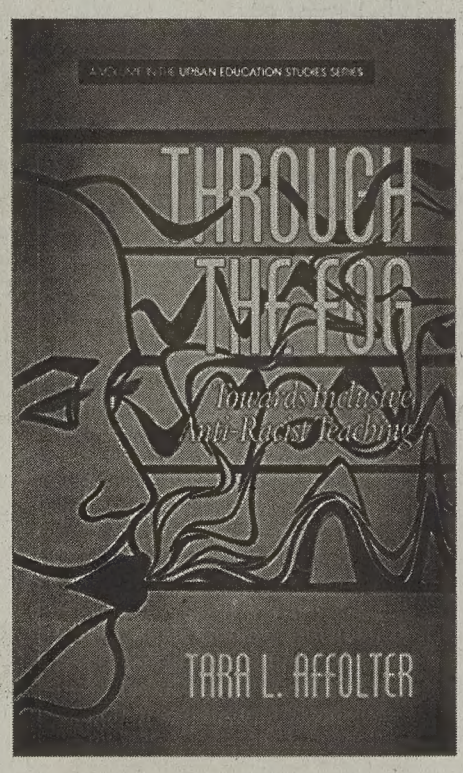
"Let's do this," said Tara Affolter, professor of education studies, as she hopped up on the stage and strode to the podium to speak about her new book, "Through the Fog: Towards Inclusive Anti-Racist Teaching." During her March 3 talk in Dana Auditorium, Affolter posed a question whose answer she has devoted her life's work to changing: Who gets to be a child or a teenager in this country?

Affolter began by reading the opening of her book, which details her initial reaction to the acquittal of George Zimmerman after the murder of Treyvon Martin. Zimmerman, a mixed-race police officer, fatally shot Martin, an African-American 17-year-old student, in 2012.

"I remember staring at his [Treyvon's] picture and thinking how young he was and how easily that could've been my son," said Affolter, a white mother to a black son. She went on to list other instances of police violence against black bodies — Michael Brown, Sandra Bland, Tamir Rice — characterizing these people not as thugs or saints, but as young people trying to learn and live in a world that often attempts to belittle and erase them.

Affolter aims to equip Middlebury students with the tools needed to thoroughly identify and dismantle inequities, particularly in schools. Her research and teaching experience cover themes of social justice education such as antiracist teaching, culturally relevant pedagogy, disability studies and Critical Race Theory.

Her book emphasizes the importance of inclusive anti-racist pedagogy, centering on race without excluding other forms of oppression. She hopes the book will "disrupt the massive miseducation most students in the U.S. have received around race and racism."



COURTESY PHOTO

Affolter said the idea of inclusive education centers around making all learners' experiences with schooling welcoming and participatory. It is rooted in aspirations for democratic and socially-just education, and is fundamentally concerned with interrogating cultural practices of schooling.

"Inclusive anti-racist teaching should be core to all work in all education settings," Affolter said.

She emphasized that inclusion should not protect white students and teachers from being challenged when they've made racist or offensive remarks, and questioned the legitimacy of civil discourse, asking, "What if one side of the argument questions your very worth and presence on a college campus in the first place? Are you still obliged to listen?"

Affolter said that in all her courses, she works to provide her students with the knowledge they need to challenge systems of oppression. She believes in using questions as a means of dismantling racism in classrooms. If someone says something perceived as offensive, she asks why that person thinks the statement is true. She then writes their response down, not as a shaming technique, but as a prompt for them to look deeper into the rhetoric they used to frame the idea.

"I see schools as a place that can either replicate or challenge inequity and inequality," she said. "My teaching seeks to find ways to provide all students with more tools to engage with the world in a more equitable and just manner."

Community members talk climate action in Nordic countries

By ROYA TOURAN
Contributing Writer

Fran and Spence Putnam, local climate activists and community members of the Sunday Night Environmental Group (SNEG), spoke Friday afternoon about their recent research trip to Scandavia and Iceland. The talk, titled "Climate Action and Social Democracy—Lessons Learned from the Nordic Countries" discussed their five week, self-designed study tour of Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Iceland, where the couple researched these countries' climate policies.

The Putnams cited activist George Lakey, author of "Viking Economics: How the Scandinavians Got It Right and How We Can, Too," as a source of inspiration for their trip. They had never visited the Nordic countries before and were fascinated by the countries' economic systems.

"The Nordic model emphasizes society-wide risk sharing and the use of a universal social safety net to help their citizens," Fran said. "From our observations, we would say that the Nordic model appears to be working and that it has support from all four coutries we visited."

Components of the model include a very strong commitment to free education, generous family leave, child care, elderly care and strong social infrastructure. These programs are funded through high tax rates. The presenters said that while taxing is a point of contention in the United States, many citizens in the Scandanavian countries don't mind the higher tax rates — almost double taxes in the United States.

"We did not hear complaints about the tax burden. We asked that question specifically many times," Fran said. "We would ask people what they thought about the tax rates and they would say 'I think they're fair' or 'I don't mind paying the taxes as long as I know what I'm getting for it.'"

Zoe Booth '23.5, who attended the talk, said she was intrigued by the contrast between how people in the US and people in the Scandanavian countries view their taxes.

"The reality that people in the Scandanavian countries do not oppose them because they understand the causes differs greatly to the reality here," Booth said.

The Putnams' presentation focused on two communities that are taking large steps towards combating climate change. The island of Samsø in Denmark operates almost entirely on renewable energy from wind turbines and conserves energy through thermal efficiency. Akureyri, a small town in Iceland, is currently transitioning to become carbon neutral and derives much of its energy from geothermal and hydropower.

Both Samsø and Akureyri used communal decision-making tactics to reduce their carbon emissions, making sure town members were participating in the initiative. The towns implemented the co-op model so that people could own shares in public utilities such as wind turbines.

Spence believes many ideas from the Nordic model can be adapted to fit Addison County. Like the Nordic countries, Middlebury is a small place with a strong local identity and accessible government entities.

"We feel that Akureyri in particular has some lessons that can be applied here in Vermont," he said.

Spence hopes more group decision-making will be incorporated in decision-making in Addison County and in greater Vermont. He described how Green Mountain Power, an energy transformation company in Vermont, is looking to make the state carbon neutral by 2030, while the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County is also trying to take steps to model the Nordic countries as much as possible.

"The high functioning and faith in government allows the Nordic countries to tackle problems like climate change," Fran said. "People aren't constantly worrying about where their next problem is coming from, so they have the bandwidth to confront some of these big issues."

The presentation concluded by offering steps community members can take to help combat climate change, including putting pressure on the state legislature to help pass the Climate Solutions Act, measuring and reducing your own carbon output and making more efficient transportation and food choices. Although she emphasizes the importance of individual action, Putnam hopes the Nordic countries can be a good symbol of the change that can happen when communities come together.

"The presentation gave me some hope in the sense that it gave an example of somewhere that was able to find enough political stability to do something about climate change, which I don't think we have yet. And I think that's one of the keys we're missing in this equation," Grayson Barr '23.5, who also attended the event, said.

Coronavirus concerns prompt campus evacuation and other measures

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Offices. Posters are plastered around campus with the slogan "Box, label & leave."

Students are encouraged to pack whatever belongings they might need for the remainder of the semester and summer.

The college is currently working with SGA to provide break buses to students. The details are still uncertain, but the college will update students as necessary. The college will also provide eligible students with travel-based financial assistance.

Remote learning

Remote learning, beginning on March 30, will remain in effect until the administration gives further notice. Middlebury will re-evaluate the status of remote learning during the first two weeks of April.

Moorti has confirmed that classes will end as scheduled on May 11 and professors will adjust their syllabi to accommodate the shortened semester.

While some classes are easily transferable to a digital platform, others will be more challenging to shift. Amy Collier, associate provost for digital learning, will be overseeing the remote learning process. Collier cited the unique challenges posed by teaching classes such as language courses and lab sciences remotely.

"We are recognizing that there are some kinds of remote teaching and learning options that are more challenging for faculty and some remote teaching options that are more challenging for students," Collier said.

Collier is working with faculty on a case-by-case basis to assist professors in translating their classes to a format that will work for both faculty and students.

"We're trying to make recommendations based on what we hope will be very inclusive for students and very manageable for faculty and students and that respond to the teaching goals the faculty are bringing to us," Collier said.

Moorti explained that the college is considering the possibility of making all classes pass/fail for the remainder of the semester, in response to requests from students and faculty members. "We are looking into the implications, which are more complicated than they appear," she said.

Making the call

Consultation with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Vermont Department of Health informed the college's decision to suspend classes, according to Taylor.

She explained that a myriad of factors — including the inability to control who comes to campus and concerns about students returning from traveling over spring break — impacted the school's decision.

"We just don't have the capacity — we cannot wait for a case to break on campus because then it's too late in many ways and we are a small school with limited resources," Taylor said. "The state of Vermont is pretty small. We just don't have the capacity to have testing for everybody and we don't have enough personal protective equipment."

The Crisis Management Team (CMT) oversees the evolving planning related to Covid-19. The group comprises a variety of stakeholders on campus including Collier, members of the Senior Leadership Group (SLG) and Mark Peluso, director of health services and college and head team physician, among others.

Peluso explained that the college's decision to suspend in part hinged on a policy of what he called "social distancing."

"Social distancing is one of the most effective mitigation strategies when pharmaceutical treatments (vaccines, medications) are not available and there is the potential for high numbers of cases," Peluso wrote in an email to The Campus. "Close living quarters and shared dining facilities place students at higher risk for exposure if there is an illness outbreak."

This is a developing story and will be updated accordingly. The Campus will also continue to chart the impact these changes have on the greater Middlebury community over the next few weeks, including how they affect staff, local business owners, and those at the Monterey campus and the C.V. Starr Schools Abroad. Visit middleburycampus.com for updated coverage.

Charles Murray's third Middlebury visit inhibited by Covid-19 evacuation

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fee is usually $10,000 for colleges like Middlebury. Yet when College Republican co-presidents Philbin and Dominic Aiello '22.5 and former Vermont governor and College Republicans adviser Jim Douglas reached out to him to gauge his interest in coming back, he immediately waived the fee.

"I'm not charging the college because I thought it was important — still think it's important — for me to come back to Middlebury," Murray said in an interview with The Campus.

Next came the meetings. Philbin estimates that he, Aiello and Douglas met with the administration at least seven times since the initial proposal in mid-November.

Philbin said that originally the administration proposed that the talk take place mid-day, at 1 p.m. Philbin insisted on a typical talk time of 4:30 p.m., so that students weren't confronted with the choice between attending classes and the talk.

"They also proposed another event time that was the Friday of spring break," Philbin said. "So, spring break starts at 4:15 and the event would have been at 4:30. We eventually ended up getting March 31 — but that took several meetings."

Throughout this entire process, Murray has not had contact with the administration. "I haven't talked to anybody from Middlebury's administration about anything," he said.

The visit would have been Murray's first visit to a college campus in the wake of the release of his new book, "Human Diversity: The Biology of Race, Gender, and Class."

Day-of protocol

Organizing day-of logistics for Murray's visit resembled something between an obstacle course and a jigsaw puzzle. Like last time, the talk was slated to take place in Wilson Hall. There were 140 seats designated for the event.

According to Philbin, a private security consulting group, Blue Moon Consulting, was present at a few planning meetings. The firm's website says it deals in "proactive reputational risk and crisis management."

Philbin, Aiello and Douglas planned on divvying up tickets with a lottery system. The College Republicans reserved 60 of the tickets for their own club members, various faculty and members of Open Campus Initiative — the co-sponsor of the event. Philbin said the College Republicans do not have an official roster, but that 8 to 20 members are usually in attendance at each meeting.

Of the original 140 tickets, 80 remain for Middlebury College ID-holders.

McCullough Student Center — the building in which Wilson Hall is situated — was to be closed for the entirety of the day. "We've been told from the administration that they'll have McCullough closed down and cleared in the morning," Philbin said.

After the college announced plans to upgrade its security plans last fall, McCullough has been one of the first sites to receive ramped-up security measures in recent months. The plan has cost the college around $200,000, according to Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration David Provost. Components of the plan include the implementation of security cameras and additional key-card access.

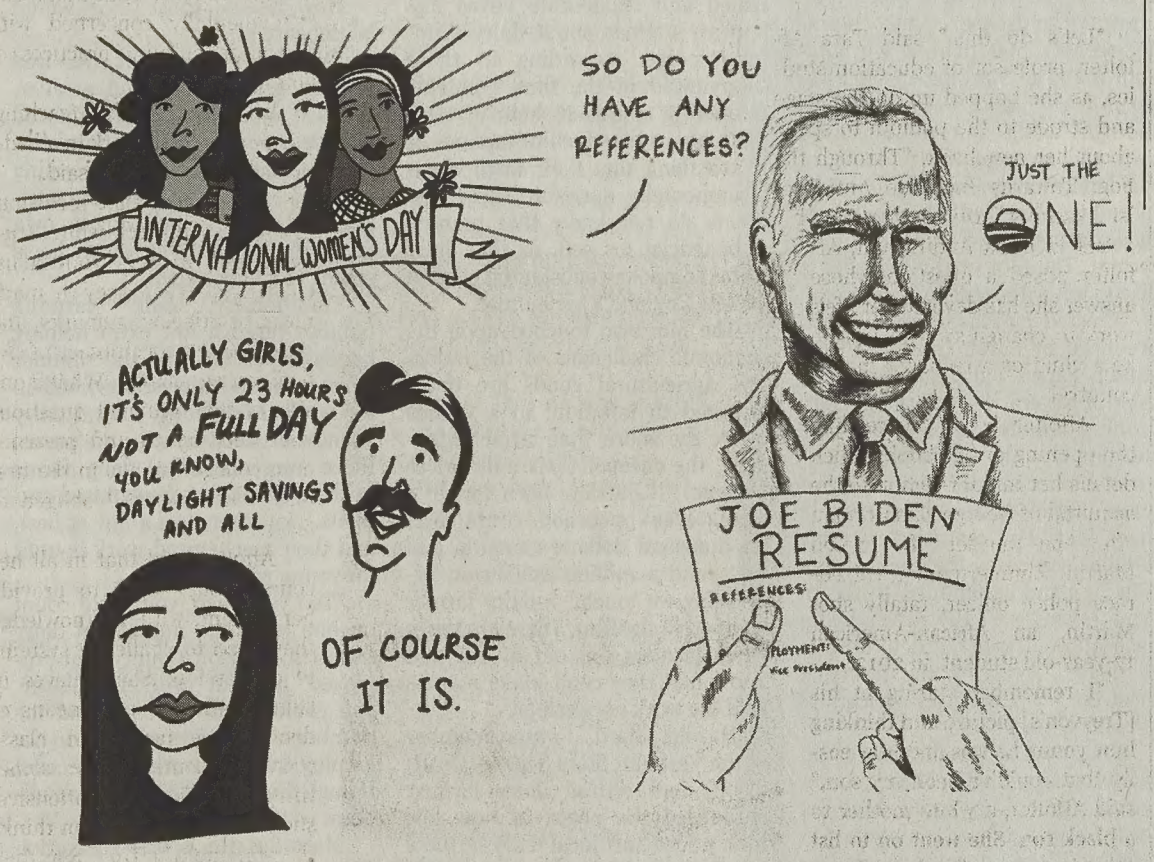
Provost said the costs for additional security for the Murray event, through Green Mountain Security, would have totalled between $5,000 and $10,000. They were to be funded by the college. There were no planned costs for the local and state police services that the college had requested be in attendance.

"Some will say that we will have spent up to $200,000 this year and we will use some of those improvements on the Murray event," Provost told The Campus. "What would we have spent this year on those investments if Murray wasn't coming? Close to $200,000. What are we spending now that Murray is coming? $200,000. Was it accelerated? Some could say yes."

Looking ahead

There is currently no official confirmation from administration that Murray's talk will be cancelled. In a phone interview late Tuesday, Philbin said that "the current status is that the event doesn't seem like it's happening."

After the many meetings and preparations, Philbin sees the cancellation as an upset. "It's disappointing," he said. "We put in six months of work. I committed social suicide for this event and now it seems like it's not going to happen. Things are totally up in the air right now."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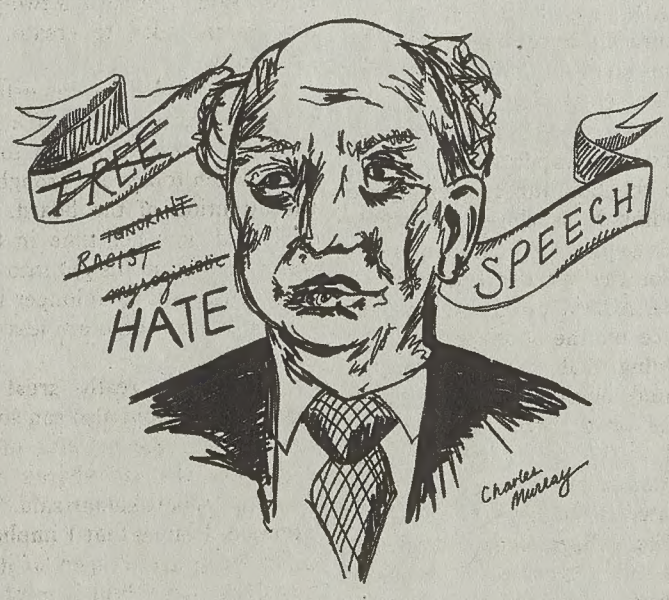
By PIA CONTRERAS

By SARAH FAGAN



By PIA CONTRERAS

For local kayakers, Otter Creek Falls is a gem hidden in plain sight

By MAREN WALSH
Contributing Writer

"Any kayaker who looks at the falls in Middlebury sees a perfect 15-foot waterfall, just begging to be run," said Reed Hutton '19.5. Like many advanced and passionate kayakers, Hutton sees Middlebury Falls as a rewarding challenge. The waterfall is known as an excellent and consistent spot for paddling, attracting regional daredevils in every season.

Middlebury Falls is a well-known but short feature, so paddlers often stop there on their way somewhere else. Although it's not always worth gearing up and loading a boat onto the water for such a short run, the falls are an excellent spot for paddling. "You can run it at a super wide range of flows," Hutton said. "When [the water] is super high, it's gnarlier, scarier and a little more technical. When it's low, it's really friendly and not too bad."

Having dedicated his childhood summers to kayaking in his home state of Idaho, Hutton is no stranger to paddling waterfalls. He's been out on the water regularly since he was 10 and now works as a coach and executive director at Jackson Hole Kayak Club, a youth summer program in that Wyoming town.

Running the Middlebury Falls can be a particularly rewarding experience. "Technically it's not that difficult of a waterfall, but mentally it's huge," said Hutton, acknowledging that going over a 15-foot drop is a pretty big feat. "It's a good mental exercise to get your heart rate up and test yourself."

Because of the falls' central location in the town of Middlebury, kayaking there has also been a great way for Hutton to start conversations and joke with passers-by. "People will be like, 'Oh my God, there's a waterfall!' and I'm like, 'What? Where? I don't know, I didn't see one!' and people will freak out on the bridge," Hutton described. "A lot of people will end up watching, and it's fun to talk with them afterwards 'cause they'll ask me questions."

Although Middlebury has a relatively small kayaking community, Middlebury Falls often sees visitors who travel down from Montreal in search of white water. Nearby universities such as UVM and Dartmouth, which have relatively large boating groups, also regularly send outings to Middlebury Falls.

"Northeastern white water is unique because it only really runs when it rains," said Cortland Fischer, a junior at UVM and president of the UVM Kayak Club.

When the water's good, people take advantage of it. Within a period of two weeks last month, the UVM Kayak Club sent between four and give outings to Middlebury Falls, and Fischer personally got in 10–15 laps. When the conditions are bad elsewhere, such as in the summer when it hasn't rained enough, or in the winter when most rivers have frozen over, the falls tend to be a fairly reliable place for boating.

COURTESY PHOTO

Kayakers from all over Vermont have come to town to run Middlebury Falls in the spring and summer.

Cameron Weiner '20, an active kayaker at Middlebury College, has run the falls several times. "It's a very forgiving falls," she said. "Someone's dad who went here years ago was telling me a story — they used to do trips down there every Friday or something, and send random people who had never kayaked before down the falls."

As far as legality of the sport, Otter Creek is an open waterway. "There is nothing to prohibit folks from [kayaking] Middlebury Falls," said Middlebury Chief of Police Thomas Hanley, adding that "it is a little bit risky."

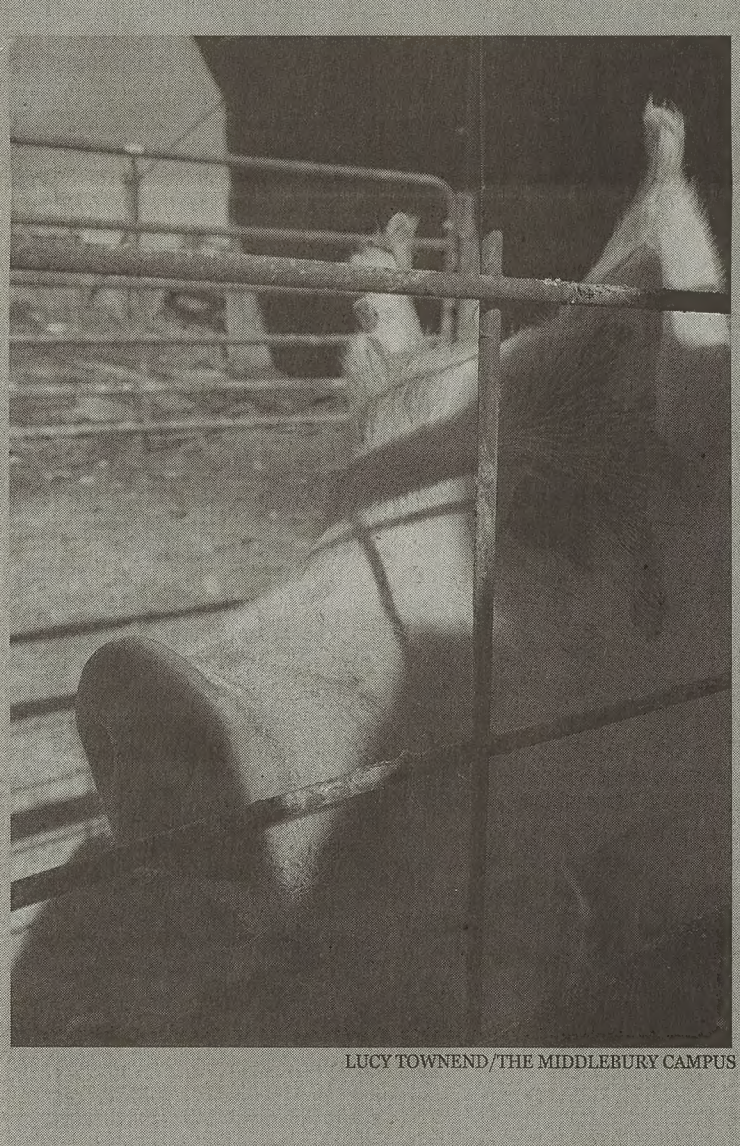
In very low water, Weiner warned against "penciling in," or going in at the wrong angle, hitting the bottom, and potentially cracking the boat or getting injured.

"[Most] Kayakers know what they're doing, are fully prepared, fully clothed and have modern kayaks [that] really reduce that risk," Hanley said. "We just ask anybody doing it to please follow safety rules." He also cited that although Middlebury Police has not had any accidents at Middlebury Falls, there have been fatalities in other waterways in town due to white water kayaking accidents in the springtime.

For novice kayakers, Hutton urged them to lean on their mentors and coaches. "[Kayaking] has an unbelievably long and frustrating learning curve. Learning how to roll in the pool is not the same as learning how to kayak, and there are so many nuances and skills you need until you can learn how to do the falls competently."

As in any sport, safety and effective training are a major priority. "Do it at your own pace," Hutton advised. "For me, it's a sport that has become intuitive, but it's taken a lot of time." For kayakers who put in the time and the effort to run it safely, however, Middlebury Falls has a lot to offer.

HEY!



LUCY TOWNEND/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

WE WANT TO KNOW HOW THE MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE CLASS SUSPENSIONS WILL AFFECT LOCAL BUISNESSES.

If you have any ideas or tips, please email bglass@middlebury.edu

Local farmers talk dairy decline at Marquis screening

COURTESY PHOTO

After a screening of "Forgotten Farms" at the Marquis last Wednesday, local farmers spoke about their experiences with a changing dairy industry.

By ANNA WOOD
Staff Writer

"Forgotten Farms" opens with a panoramic view of a green, picturesque landscape — the charming scenery that defines Vermont. Shown at The Marquis on Wednesday, March 8, the film then turns its spotlight to the dairy farmers who own and manage the majority of this land, juxtaposing these beautiful rolling plains with the challenges those farmers face in today's food system. The film was followed by a discussion with local dairy farmers.

Directed by Dave Simonds and produced by Sarah Gardner, "Forgotten Farms" glimpses into the lives of several hardworking dairy farming families in New England, showing how the confluence of cultural and economic factors introduces hardship and insecurity in their lives. For centuries, farming families served as the backbone of New England agriculture. In recent years, changes in the agroindustry have allowed some agriculturalists to thrive, obscuring the fact that most of New England's agriculture is under threat.

Since the industrialization of agriculture, New England has lost over ten thousand dairy farms. Many of these farms had been maintained in families, passed down through generations. "You lose more than farms, you lose the history of who they have been, how they got there, what they have," said one dairy farmer who was interviewed for the film. The farmer referred to his great grandfather, who pioneered his way into the dairy farming industry 75 years prior. At that time, local farmers brought the community together, fostering connection between food producers and consumers. In this symbiotic relationship, the community respected its farmers. Today, two percent of the total population produces food, and not even their next door neighbors understand their work.

As communities become gentrified and small-scale farms disappear, stigmas about dairy farming emerge. According to those interviewed in the film, residents frequently approach them to complain about the smell of manure or to tell them that their work is environmentally harmful. These residents do not know that manure is beneficial for soil, or that dairy farms compose a substantial portion of New England's agriculture.

The film also touched upon the economic challenges of the industry. Agricultural goods are never adjusted to inflation: in a vicious cycle, the more that farmers produce, the cheaper their milk prices become. "It's always been sort of a 'break even' operation. Grain costs 20 thousand dollars a month, and we spend a million dollars on everything we touch," a dairy farmer testified in the film. There are times when farmers roll out of bed and know that they can't make money. And the work never stops.

Harold Giard, former member of the Vermont State Senate (D-Addison) and retired dairy farmer, chronicled the plight of how low milk prices hurt local dairy farmers after the screening.

"Every time a dairy farmer wants something, he needs to milk more cows, because the cost of the piece of equipment is so much money. So we get on this treadmill and continue to run," he told the audience. Rob Hunt, local dairy farmer who was also at the screening, recalled his life in the past, before small dairy farmers endured financial insecurity.

"The first year I shipped milk was in 1979, and in that year, the average price of milk paid to me was $17.25 per gallon, and that's what we got paid last year," Hunt said, noting that in 1979 he could also buy five gallons of Diesel fuel, coffee and a donut for five dollars.

Now, he said, those prices would be unheard of.

"As the margin per hundred pounds gets smaller and smaller, it takes more and more hundred pounds to make a living," he added. He speculated that these dropping milk prices are why farms industrialize and merge — including his own farm, the property of which he is selling to a larger farm.

Traditionally, dairy farming families hired a few extra helping hands, especially over the summer when teens and adolescents lined up for work. Middlebury's local dairy farmers recalled how, in the 1970s, there were dozens of dairy farms in their towns that freely hired students. Now there are a few at best, and their mechanized work is unfit for young workers.

"Ten years ago, you could count on one hand the number of dairy farms in Addison County that employed migrant workers. Today, you could count on one hand the number of dairy farmers that do not employ migrant workers," he said, though the film did not touch on migrant workers.

Marc Cesario, a first-generation farmer in Cornwall, Vermont, whose 1200-acre cattle farm provides beef to Middlebury College, supported the presence of large farms in the dairy industry. "I actually find that I can do a better job of grazing, and it has a better impact on the land, as animal numbers have grown," he said. "As my herds have grown, it has had a positive impact on soil health and ecology. Growth has been beneficial to me."

For more information about the film, visit ForgottenFarms.org.

All articles approved in annual Middlebury town meeting

By LUCY TOWNEND & ARIADNE WILL
Local Editors

Hundreds of Middlebury residents gathered at the town meeting at Middlebury Union High School on Monday night, approving all seven proposed articles. The town meeting, a manifestation of direct democracy, involved the discussion of several proposals, followed by a voice vote. Residents also reviewed and discussed information on three more legislative articles that were decided on Tuesday via Australian ballot.

The meeting featured first-time Moderator Susan Shashok, who replaced former Vermont Governor and longtime town meeting moderator Jim Douglas '72. Shashok has previously attended the town meeting as a member of the selectboard — the town's governing group of seven elected members — and was endorsed by Douglas last year after he announced he would not be running again for the position of moderator.

"[Douglas's endorsement] felt pretty good," Shashok said in a phone interview Wednesday. "He's been a very good mentor to me during this process. Even though it's big shoes to fill, I told everybody I'd have different shoes. Jim's okay with that and so I'm okay with that."

At the meeting, Middlebury Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter read a year-in-review report, which mainly focused on progress of the Middlebury Bridge and Rail Project.

The town budget was approved without dissent and included increased funding for the replacement of public works equipment, such as the town's 25-year-old street sweeper. Tax surpluses will be used to fund downtown projects like the railroad platform and updates to light fixtures.

The two most contentious articles of the night were Article 4 and Article 2, both of which allocated additional extra-budget funds to first responder services. Article 4 requested a $63,721 increase in appropriations for Middlebury Regional Emergency and Medical Services (MREMS).

LUCY TOWNEND/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

A Middlebury resident posed a question to the selectboard during the Middlebury town hall in front of a crowd of 200-300 residents.

Some residents expected money requests for first response care to be part of the town budget, and not presented as a separate article. But the the selectboard said it had not had enough time to review the MREMS allocation request to add it to the budget beforehand.

Opponents were concerned about giving such a large sum of money to a non-profit without the selectboard spending time to review the proposal. Advocates for the article however, claimed that emergency and medical services are essential.

"I understand and appreciate the concerns expressed regarding municipal appropriations for independent, non-profit entities," said Ben Fuller, vice-chair of MREMS, in an email to The Campus. "That said, I also believe that the critical, life-saving services we provide put us in a slightly different category than most other non-profits."

These concerns led to a motion to postpone consideration of the item, an action that Shashok said she hadn't anticipated.

"We had one motion to lay the item on the table, and that's very rare," Shashok told The Campus. "I knew what to do, but I had to stop the meeting and double-check my notes just to make sure I had it right."

The motion to table eventually failed, and Article 4 passed with an amendment to limit the increased funding to one year.

"I think it was the best solution to support them this one time, and make sure that the selectboard had full authority to vet and include what we feel is appropriate in next year's budget," Carpenter told The Campus.

Article 2, which allocated $80,000 to the Middlebury Police Department (MPD) for the purchase of new police cruisers, also incited discussion at the meeting. Residents pointed out that funds for vehicle replacement are an annual expenditure, not a one-time purchase. Police Chief Tom Hanley agreed and said during the meeting that he is not sure why the police vehicle allocation has not been added to MPD's budget.

Discussions centered around the high wear and tear on police cars, which can be used for four years before requiring heightened levels of maintenance. In focusing on environmental concerns, the police department replaced one of its cars last year with a hybrid car. Though the cruiser is not yet in service in Middlebury, the department is considering purchasing two more hybrid cruisers this year.

Other articles dealt with 2020 tax collection dates and allocation of funds from the Cross Street Reserve Fund for water system improvements. The selectboard's goal is to complete the water system improvements before the state begins a repaving project throughout town.

"Ideally, we would not replace the roads and then dig them up again," said selectboard member Heather Seeley at the meeting.

The meeting ended with discussion of other articles that would appear on the Australian ballot the following day, including Article 9, a proposition that allocates funds to flood resilience projects in East Middlebury. Article 8 proposed allocating $5,000 to the Turning Point Center, a non-profit that provides services to those suffering from substance abuse, and Article 10 proposed using $850,000 to rehabilitate dilapidated buildings near the police station. All articles passed with healthy margins on Tuesday, according to Carpenter.

Dave Silberman, attorney and Middlebury resident, spoke multiple times during the meeting.

"Democracy only works when people participate in it," Silberman said. "I really feel that I'm exercising my civic duty."

For Vermonters like Silberman, who values democratic participation, and Shashok, who considers herself a "democracy geek," town meeting presents an opportunity to take advantage of an important tradition.

"I love Vermont's town meeting," said Fuller, the vice-chair of MREMS. "It's an iconic tradition that helps preserve the sense of community in our towns and allows for the most direct and transparent form of democratic government."

This article was originally run online on March 5, 2020.

Bernie returns to Vermont roots after competitive Super Tuesday

By ARIADNE WILL
Local Editor

ESSEX JUNCTION — Exactly 31 years after his first mayoral win in Burlington, Vermont Senator and presidential hopeful Bernie Sanders held a rally at Champlain Valley Exposition to cap off Super Tuesday.

The fairground venue, which expected an audience of around 10,000, filled up Tuesday evening with Sanders supporters who came to watch primary results roll in all evening. The boisterous crowd listened to speeches by Sanders himself, Lieutenant Governor David Zuckerman, Vermont Attorney General T. J. Donovan and others, including Jane Sanders, the Senator's wife.

"[This campaign] is about transforming this country," Bernie told the crowd. "This movement started right here."

The movement Bernie is leading, Jane said, is characterized by community — one that should feel familiar to Vermonters. "[Vermonters] taught me that being a community organizer is more important than being a politician," she said.

Bernie also made multiple appeals to the working class at the rally, a hallmark of his campaigning style.

"What we need is a new politics that brings working class and young people into our movement," he said in his address. He added that the inclusivity of his campaign will help achieve high voter turnout, echoing hopes of creating a coalition similar to Obama's in 2008 and contradicting claims that he would not be able to generate a sufficient voter base to beat President Donald Trump this November.

Bernie also addressed the prominence of billionaire campaign funding, which has been a fixture of other Democratic campaigns.

"We're going to tell [Michael Bloomberg] that in America, you cannot buy elections," Bernie said, contrasting Bloomberg's campaign spending with his grassroots efforts. Bloomberg, who spent $500 million of his own money on his campaign, according to AP, dropped out of the race Wednesday.

The rally also featured live music by the Mallett Brothers Band, a Maine group who was joined onstage by bassist Mike Gordon and drummer Jon Fishman of the jam band Phish.

"Phish and Bernie — two things I love," said Billy Stark '22, a Middlebury student who drove up to attend the rally. "What draws me to Bernie [is that a] lot of his campaign is built on raising class consciousness, something that's sorely missed in [this] country. It's been inspiring to see so many people in America embrace Bernie's platform."

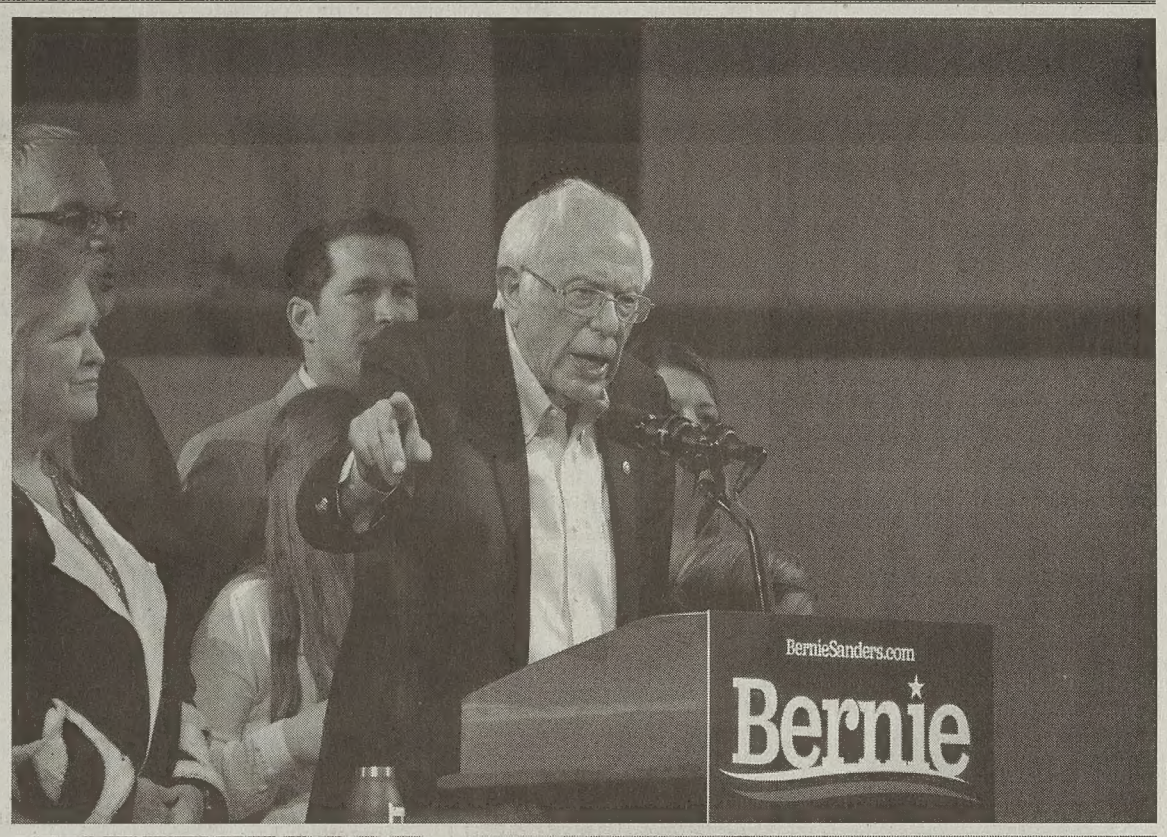
Stark said that he first started supporting Bernie in 2016 and has supported the candidate since.

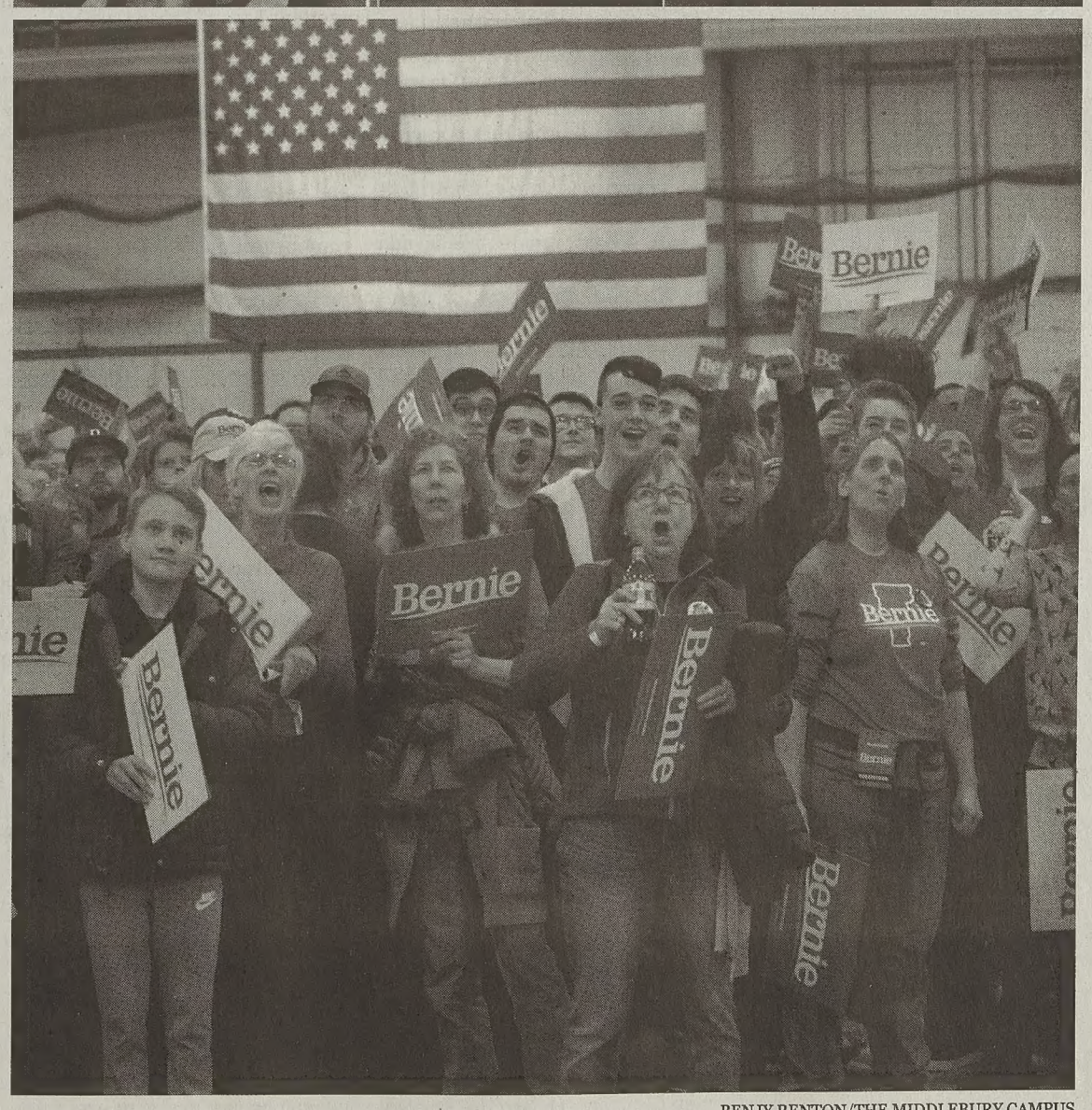
Loyalty was certainly one of the themes of the night, and Bernie invoked his Vermont roots to talk about his most stalwart supporters.

"We have come a long long way," Bernie said, referencing his position 30 years prior. "I want to thank the State of Vermont and all of the people in Vermont for years and years of love and support," he said.

By the end of the night, Bernie had secured four out of 14 Super Tuesday states, including California, which holds the most delegates, and (unsurprisingly) Vermont. Though Bernie had hoped to win Texas at the time of his address, the key state was later won by Biden.

This article was originally run online on March 5, 2020.





BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Bernie Sanders, along with a handful of others, spoke at the Essex Junction rally in front of a crowd of thousands. For a slideshow of photos from the event, visit go/campus.

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THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

What we talk about when we talk about coronavirus

editorial

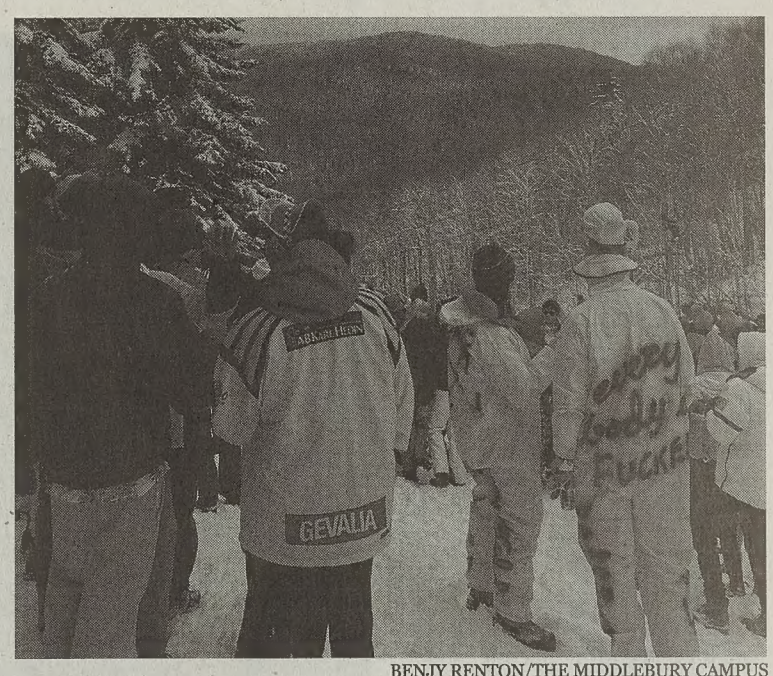
The editorial represents the opinion of the Middlebury Campus editorial board.

We hear you: this wasn't how the spring semester was supposed to go. In the wake of President Patton's email Tuesday, announcing the shift to remote learning following an early, extended spring break, to say that things are "uncertain" feels like an understatement. Talk to anyone on campus: chances are they're upset and confused. We are too.

It's hard to fault anyone for their feelings at a time like this. The whole range of emotions (anger, disappointment, fear) seems pretty understandable. Less understandable, though, are some of the conversations and reactions which have taken place on campus over the past couple of weeks. At Winter Carnival, two students appeared dressed in hazmat suits with "Everybody is F***ed" written on the back. Following Amherst's cancellation of in-person classes on Monday night, a group took to Battell Beach chanting "COVID-19."

We realize that humor forms a vital tool for coping, especially in situations as nebulous or unfathomable as this one. Still, the virus affects members of the Middlebury community differently — including their ability to laugh along. For some, the virus simply represents an inconvenience (cause for cancelling spring break plane tickets, say, or renting a storage locker in town). For others, though (members of the community who have existing health conditions, for instance, or those with family and friends in high-risk environments) the stakes are much, much higher. And so what to some might seem like an innocuous joke, is to others a reminder of the imminent danger their parents and friends face back home. We'd suggest that instilling fear or uncertainty is too high a price to pay for the sake of a joke.

Humor aside, it's imperative that we think critically not only about the conversations we're having, but who's in the room when we have them. In a community as small as Middlebury, it's easy to forget those who are hurt are often on the periphery of the Middlebury community.



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

And, in a community as small and diverse as Middlebury, this awareness assumes even greater importance.

Come this weekend, students, faculty and staff will start spreading who knows where, for who knows how long. We'd suggest, though, that the impending distance doesn't make upholding a safe and sensitive community any less important. Really, it's reason to come closer together.

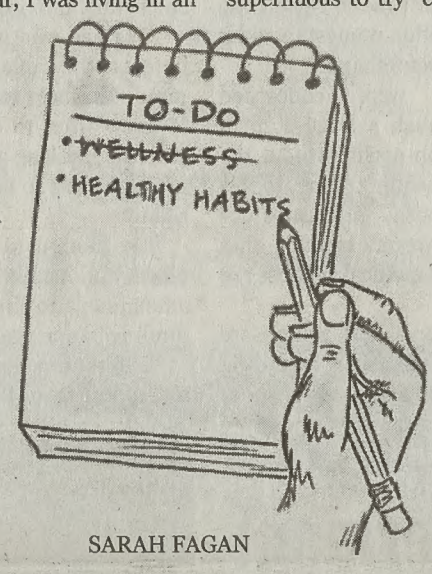
Take "Wellness" off your to-do list

Yesterday I received an email from the New York Times that said: Day 5. Refresh. Take a Self-Compassion Break. The email suggested that I take a moment to close my eyes and soothe myself by wrapping my arms around my body. I was then given the option to press a button to "mark this task complete."

Five days ago, I signed up for the Healthy Habits Well Challenge in the wellness section of the New York Times, offering up my email to receive daily "wellness challenges" for 28 days in a row such as Have a Savory Breakfast, Controlled Breathing Exercise, and Phone Free Lunch. The habits suggested in the Well Challenge are extremely accessible; they're inclusive, casual, and quick. The "mark complete" button caters to our modern obsession with productivity—an obsession potentially exaggerated by the act of scrolling through email. They reminded me of conversations I overhear and often partake in at Midd that almost always link "wellness" with tasks intended to craft a healthier future self.

There is something seductive about adding another box to check at the end of our days, about focusing on some future self who is more-present, more-hydrated, and more-fit, and this challenge plays into that. This is especially true as a senior about to graduate in May—if I don't know where I'll be for the next two years, why not just practice deep breathing every day for a few weeks? Or be a little more hydrated? The tendency to do things like signing up for this Wellness Challenge seems to be coming from a need to focus on a small, measured number of future days for which to optimize ourselves. But having these types of declarative conversations and signing up for Wellness Challenges like I am so prone to doing are not habits; they're tasks.

Habits are difficult to build when you're as transient as most of us are as Middlebury students. For much of our time here, we are rarely in the same place, sleeping in the same bed, for long. Last year, I was living in an on-campus house in the fall, a different room for J-Term, abroad for the spring, at home for a few days, at an internship elsewhere for the summer, and then back at school in the fall. It is a privilege, of course, to move around in this way, but this also means that my habits are never truly rooted in place. These habits must prevail in different breakfast spots, bedrooms, commutes, food options, friends, weather, time zones, schedules, and spaces. They must be portable and malleable. During my constant movement last year, I made up a habit of rubbing my index finger along my thumb a few times, as a sort of check-in with myself. During my semester abroad living with an Italian host family, unable to decide what, when, and how much food I ate for dinner, I began eating slowly, paying more attention. I clearly haven't figured all of this out yet—I'm signed up for this wellness challenge, after all, and it's instructing me to Set an Intention to Connect tomorrow. But those two routines last year felt accessible and real.



SARAH FAGAN

What bothers me about the type of self-optimization that this Well Challenge is offering is that it seems superfluous to try "choosing a mantra" on a day when you already feel fine. No one feels great chugging too much lemon water when they're not even thirsty or "eating a savory breakfast" when they're perfectly happy with their yogurt. No one feels present and mindful when they write set a task to be more present and mindful. The best "wellness" habits aren't boxes to check off on a to-do list, but tools to whip out in times of need.

As we wrap our minds around the unknowns of the next few years, maybe it's all about portable, adaptable, cheap habits that aren't wrapped up in checking boxes. The two habits that I developed last year, the finger rubbing and the slow eating, were habits that I tried multiple times until I realized that they really worked; they then became tools I could turn to when there was a need rather than a box to check when there wasn't. The best habits are invented in our own minds and adaptable in any circumstance. They're simple, barely noticeable; they're not glamorous proclamations to be shared at lunch, and there's no flashy language that can package them nicely into daily emails. They're not dependent on place or productivity; they just carry us through when we're transient.

I may not build a new habit from this challenge, but I will receive 28 wellness tips, researched and explained, straight to my inbox. I will always read articles and be part of conversations that imitate what this Wellness Challenge represents. That's fine, but it's far more practical to turn them from goals into ideas. The first habit of the Well Challenge was to perform a "coffee or tea meditation," which I never did—I've skipped most of them for the very reasons in this article—but today I tried it because I found myself alone with my coffee for a few minutes. It makes sense that, as transient college students who might not know where we'll be waking up in a few months, we'd want to build habits we can carry with us that will make us feel healthy and grounded. This happens slowly, though, without big proclamations about how great our future selves will be if we just start sleeping more or eating vegetables. Don't make your to-do list any longer than it needs to be: That's wellness.

op-ed

***Zoe Harris** is a member of the class of 2020.*

Avoid a repeat of the 2016 election by nominating Bernie Sanders

On the night of November 8, 2016, I was shell-shocked by the news of Donald Trump's victory. I spent most of the night struggling over my calculus homework, expecting a decisive victory for Hillary Clinton. After peeking my head into our common room and seeing the looks of terror on peoples' faces, I realized the unthinkable happened. The media narrative that a moderate democrat was best suited to defeat Trump was wrong. That night taught me that beating Trump will require a bold, progressive agenda that speaks to the needs of everyday Americans, not a pursuit of incrementalism. I'm afraid that the country has forgotten this lesson. Bernie Sanders was the antidote then, and he is the antidote now; I believe only he can beat Trump.

Donald Trump defeated Hillary Clinton in the 2016 general election through victories in key swing states like Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. An NBC news report found Trump visited these states 46 times more than Clinton in the final 102 days before the election. Alarming? Definitely. There's no way that another democratic nominee repeats these same mistakes, right? Unfortunately, Joe Biden is on pace to match the 2016 strategy. He skipped campaigning in most Super Tuesday states.

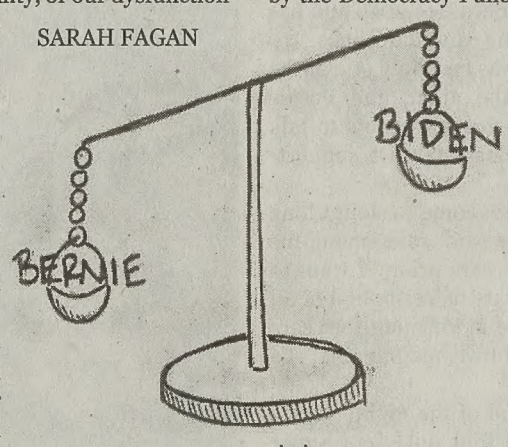
It's not just his absence of campaigning in key states that should raise eyebrows. Biden's record, current base, and policies will lose in November. Based on the evidence below, Joe Biden loses to Trump.

Biden voted for the North American Free Trade Agreement and the Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China, which cost the Rustbelt over 4 million jobs, per a 2019 NBC News analysis. We're up against an incumbent president who won white working-class voters by 67% nationally, according to NYT exit polling data. Defeating Trump will require an unprecedented turnout of youth and disaffected voters who sat out the 2016 election. In a general election campaign with Biden as the Democratic nominee, Trump could hammer Biden on his anti-worker record and win among blue-collar workers again.

I believe Biden's current platform and policies will lose to Trump. As of now, Biden's essentially been running on a platform of "I can beat Trump." That sounds great, but he rarely articulates how he will win. Trump's campaign team has already fought this battle once before. Instead of bold and comprehensive plans to combat climate change, income inequality, or our dysfunctional healthcare system, Biden is advocating for a "return to normalcy" (which only plays well with his current base).

Bernie Sanders, on the other hand, will beat Trump.

SARAH FAGAN



Sanders' voting record speaks to the key swing state voters we must win over in November. He voted against disastrous trade deals like NAFTA and PNTR with China. Sanders has proven to be the most pro-union member of Congress. Per the AFL-CIO, a federation of 55 unions, he has a nearly 100% lifetime pro-union voting record. Most importantly, Sanders didn't trust Cheney and Bush when they lied about weapons of mass destruction In Iraq. Sanders led the effort against the war in Iraq. Biden supported the war.

Sanders' base would be enough to defeat Trump. The Washington Post's exit polling shows that Sanders' median support in Super Tuesday states for voters under the age of 29 was 43 points above Biden's, and his median support in these states for independents was 8 points above Biden's. NBC News exit polls found that Sanders won 43% of first-time voters on Super Tuesday, significantly more than the other candidates. To beat an incumbent president, the younger voters, independents, and disaffected voters who overwhelmingly back Sanders must be acknowledged. Also, a study by the Democracy Fund found 92% of Biden supporters would vote for Sanders in the general election. On the flipside, 94% of Sanders supporters would vote for Biden. Both of these statistics prove a vast majority of Democrats' main goal is defeating Trump.

Sanders' current platform and policies would beat Trump. The Washington Post's exit polling found that Super Tuesday voters agree with Sanders on the issues by 13 points above Biden. These issues include Medicare for All, a Green New Deal, and a $15 federal minimum wage. Sanders' vision would not only benefit the entire country by combating climate change and guaranteeing healthcare as a human right, but also inspire key voters.

It's imperative we, as Democrats, unite against an establishment which is following the same 2016 playbook. Inspired by Sanders' grassroots movement, I co-founded Midd Students for Bernie in October of last year. Through canvassing, phonebanking, friend-to-friend outreach, we are building a progressive movement to oust Trump. I hope supporters of Elizabeth Warren, a progressive champion for working-class families, choose to join our movement to beat Trump and transform our government and economy. Will we choose the moderate lane which ends in perpetual defeat to populists like Trump, or will we choose the progressive lane which can defeat Trump and improve the lives of millions of American families? If you haven't voted yet, consider voting for the best candidate who can beat Trump: Bernie Sanders. Reach out to friends and family in states which have yet to vote like New York and Connecticut and remind them what we're up against. If you're inclined to volunteer for the campaign, visit BernieSanders.com/volunteer! While Biden has a Super-Pac and Wall-Street donors behind him, Sanders' has the support of millions of grassroots activists. Only Sanders has the agenda that can defeat Trump and bring-about much needed change. When it comes to defeating Trump, whose side are you on?

op-ed

***Tarik Shahzad** is a member of the class of 2020 and co-founder of Midd Students for Bernie*

Midd missed the mark: Calling for a humane sustainability

Imagine this: a local farm uses food waste and manure from 900 cows to produce renewable natural gas. This gas is funneled through a 5.6 mile-long pipeline from the farm to Middlebury College. The school then uses the gas to produce 500kW of renewable electricity that powers 50% of the campus. College community members turn on their lights and feel content believing the energy powering them is not draining resources from the aching earth, but is instead sustainable, ethical.

This vision is part of Middlebury's Energy2028 plan, which involves a transition to 100% renewable energy, 25% consumption reduction, fossil fuel divestment and engagement in education and research. The project depends on a partnership between Middlebury and Goodrich Family Farm to construct an anaerobic digester on the farm. Vanguard Renewables owns and will operate the plant. Vermont Gas is connecting the system to its pipeline, from which Middlebury pledged to purchase gas. In return, Goodrich will receive free heat, byproduct bedding and fertilizer, as well as annual lease payments.

This partnership has been described as an "innovative approach to the climate crisis." However, this plan is neither sustainable nor ethical.

Several weeks ago, the Goodrich family allegedly denied José Ramos, a migrant farmworker, his paycheck and physically assaulted him when he asked for his earned wages. A few days later, a Migrant Justice organizer accompanied José back to the farm to ask for his wages. Yet again, they were met with physical and verbal violence at the hands of his boss and supervisor.

On Feb. 29, Migrant Justice organizers and community members rallied in front of Goodrich Farm. Over 60 protesters (including 20 Middlebury students) stood in solidarity with José, demanding justice. Protestors said the farm owners met them with aggression: charging at the marchers, pushing people and yelling obscenities.

José is not the only worker at Goodrich Farm to have experienced abuse. Following the rally, several farm workers previously employed on the farm came forward to speak about similar violence they endured during their time at Goodrich.

The partnership between Middlebury College and Goodrich Farm has been framed as mutually beneficial, helping the college achieve its energy goals and the Goodriches to diversify income. However, this mutual beneficiality is only surface level. As it stands now, the partnership perpetuates deep harm. If Middlebury proceeds with this partnership without demanding the Goodriches afford their farmworkers dignified working and living conditions, we will be directly implicated in violence towards our neighbors.

We must face the reality that 100% renewable does not equate 100% sustainable. "Sustainability," narrowly conceived, aims to reduce carbon consumption and prevent depletion of natural resources. However, this understanding separates humans from the environment by framing them exclusively as consumers rather than inextricable parts of the environment. These ideas of sustainability perpetuate transactional systems devoid of justice. People and energy sources are not separate. Generating renewable energy must be grounded in reciprocal care. Reimagined, sustainability can support ecosystems and promote equitable social systems.

Middlebury must hold the Goodriches accountable for their actions if this partnership is to be sustainable. José's case and similar cases show the irrefutable need for the expansion of Migrant Justice's Milk with Dignity program.

The Milk with Dignity Standards Council enforces legally binding standards of living and working conditions. If farmworkers at Goodrich were protected under Milk with Dignity, the violence José experienced would not be tolerated. The farm would benefit as well, receiving a premium for their milk as well as other supports.

Middlebury has the leverage and power to demand that Goodrich Farm pay José Râmos his wages and apologize. We must also support the Milk with Dignity Campaign, currently targeting the Hannaford supermarket chain.

If Middlebury wishes to be a national leader in sustainability, we cannot pursue our energy goals through unjust means. Middlebury faces two choices: use our position of power to be an instrument for change, or continue to remain tolerant of deeply troubling labor practices.

At the end of the day, the energy produced by this project is not just coming from food and agricultural waste. It is also coming from human beings who expend their own energy laboring in extremely difficult conditions to care for the animals producing the waste that is turned into power. If farmworkers' energy is not valued, the very root of Energy2028 will be corrupt.

We are calling on the Middlebury community and the Energy2028 team to entertain a broader definition of sustainability, one that does not continue to perpetuate violence and dehumanization. Sustainability cannot be surface level. Instead, it must be deeply rooted in respect, justice and humanity.

op-ed

Signed by ***Alex Cobb '20, Hannah Ennis '22.5, Olivia Pintair '22.5, Jaden Hill '22*** *and* ***Connor Weltz '22***

Re "Coronavirus in N.Y.: Manhattan Woman Is First Confirmed Case in State"

COURTESY PHOTO/THE NEW YORK TIMES

The following was submitted to the NYT as a Letter to the Editor.

To the Editor:

Words cannot express the disappointment I felt when I saw that The Times chose to feature an image of Chinatown in Flushing, New York alongside its breaking story about a Manhattan woman who contracted the coronavirus after returning from Iran. There is no connection between Chinatown and Manhattan — nor Iran — except for the fact that the first case of the coronavirus appeared in China and the emergence of an accepted narrative that the carriers of the virus are Asians.

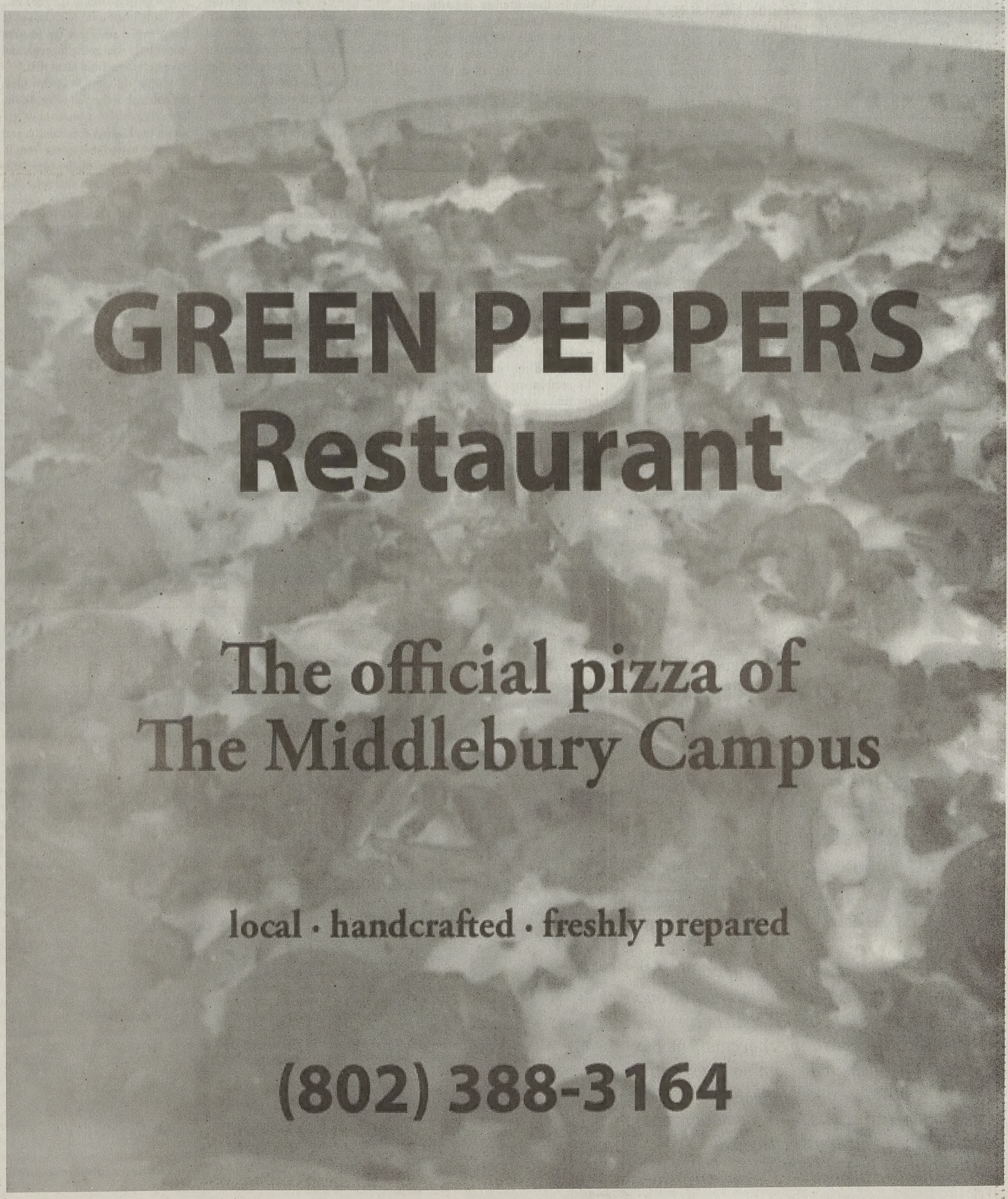
For many Asians and Asian-Americans such as myself, The Times represented a platform that told our story — one that is nuanced, complex and above all, human. We had confidence in The Times that it would do its due diligence to look beyond the black and white to find the gray, to tell our story accurately, and to do so without bias. That trust has been violated.

The Times commands the attention of hundreds and thousands of eyes, wielding a powerful force — one that can be used to dispel racist and xenophobic agendas or permit, enable, and endorse them. Whether intentionally or not, the Times has dehumanized a community in its weakest moments, feeding into toxic, misleading, and fantastically inaccurate narratives that enable and justify racism and xenophobia.

If The Times is true to its mission to "seek the truth and help people understand the world," then it must seek truth by looking behind the curtain of its own biases and evaluate whose world it is helping whom understand.

notes from the desk

Bochu Ding '21 *is a Managing Editor for The Campus.*



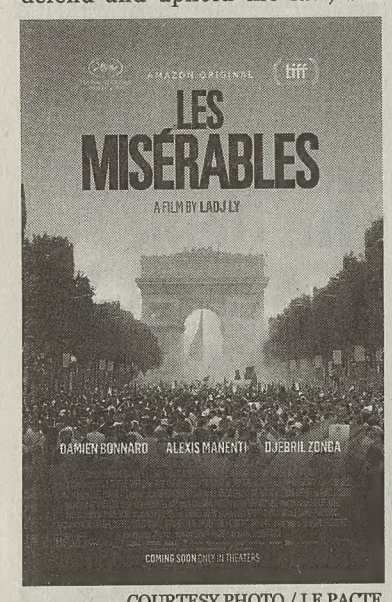
Reel critic: Les Misérables

By NINA NG
Contributing Writer

The longstanding success of Victor Hugo's "Les Misérables" is, in part, its ability to transport us back in time. It is a triumphant work culminating in closure and French unity. But director Ladj Ly points to another gruesome reality.

Presented to us by the Hirschfield Film Series, "Les Misérables" is a 2019 film that introduces viewers to the modern-day streets of Montfermeil, a scene shared by Hugo's 1862 novel. Present Montfermeil replaces teetering brick shacks with cheap apartments crammed together in small spaces, surrounded by a landscape of litter. Most individuals are racial minorities, speaking a range of languages from French to Bambara. "Les Misérables" documents the violence, corruption and crime of today. Centered around Stéphane Ruiz (Damien Bonnard), a newcomer to the city and a new recruit of the Street Crimes Unit, or S.C.U., we follow his first patrols with two officers, Chris (Alexis Manenti) and Gwada (Djebril Zonga).

However, as Ruiz quickly discovers, the officers aren't the dutiful individuals who we expect to defend and uphold the law, but


AMAZON ORIGINAL
LES MISÉRABLES
A FILM BY LADJ LY
DAMIEN BONNARD ALEXIS MANENTI DJEBRIL ZONGA
COMING SOON ONLY IN THEATERS
COURTESY PHOTO / LE PACTE

instead its very abusers. Chris is the singular emblem of privilege, standing out like a sore thumb in the community he patrols. Gwada, hardened by growing up on the streets of Montfermeil, turns a blind eye as Chris, nicknamed "Pink Pig" by the mayor and children of the complexes, exploits his authority to frisk young girls. The horror comes to a head as the officers give chase to Issa (Issa Perica), a young boy who stole a lion cub. In a fit of rage, Gwada shoots him in the face with a flare gun. The confrontation is captured by a drone flying overhead, sending the officers into a state of panic. Through his portrayal of police brutality in impoverished areas of France, Ladj Ly points to the ongoing severity of social tension, and Victor Hugo's century-old stories adopt new faces today.

Almost documentary-style, the film integrates several interesting scenes to tell a story of despair and disparity as Ly captures shaky shots of chases and the raw environment of Montfermeil. The beginning scene of a cheering crowd for the 2018 FIFA World Cup on the Avenue de Champs-Élysées is a portrait of unity — possibly the vision of hope Hugo paints in the final moments of his story. Almost instantly after, we're brought back to run-down scenes of Montfermeil, where the buildings are cramped and the elevators out of service. Kids hang in abandoned lots, sliding down skate ramps on cardboard for fun. Meanwhile, Chris' own children squabble not over whether they can afford food, but over turns on a Nintendo Switch, something likely unimaginable for the kids living in the derelict apartments. Capturing the ruptured, unjustly compromised childhood of the kids in Montfermeil, "Les Misérables" heavily juxtaposes our idyllic preconceptions of French life with clever expositions of inequity.

Ly's decision to film pain and suffering in the city's children is what hits heaviest. Little Issa, bloody and bruised from a run-in with the squadron, is left unattended. Buzz (Al-Hassan Ly), who filmed the confrontation, is also just a child. Yet, both were chased aggressively by the police. Watching grown men tackle children onto solid asphalt is a hard pill to swallow. As the mayor and even their parents throw them aside and neglect their own children due to the pressure of a dwindling economy, kids are largely left to fend for themselves. The hope in justice falters again and again when officers like Chris abuse their power, claiming, "I am the law!" Inevitably, when options are scant and authority is never on their side, the kids don black hoods and dark outfits and corner the squadron in a stairwell, pelting the officers with random objects and pushing shopping carts at them. The situation is grim and full of aggression. Bearing firecrackers as a nod to the flare gun previously used against Issa, the children improvise their attack to respond to the similar levels of pain and aggression they faced.

The movie ends on a dark note, with a bruised Issa holding up a lit Molotov cocktail in a dark stairwell at gunpoint. As he contemplates throwing the bottle, the screen fades to black. His performance fills us with the overwhelming sense of insecurity and mistrust Issa feels at the moment. The flames flicker, bringing the story to a bleak close.

Touchingly documenting the political discrepancies imbuing daily life in Montfermeil, "Les Misérables" rewrites the common misrepresentation of violence amongst minorities, who are often unfairly cast as scapegoats for the larger political structures that oppress them. It is difficult to confront the hypocrisy of institutions people come to trust, but Ly's story narrates this inequity in an incredibly raw and touching way.

'UNVEILED' HIGHLIGHTS STORIES FROM THE MUSLIM DIASPORA

By DALEELAH SALEH
Contributing Writer

As a Muslim-American woman growing up in the shadow of post-9/11 Islamophobia and the War on Terror, I am no stranger to the stereotypes perpetuated in Western media against Muslims, especially Muslim women. Renowned playwright and actress Rohina Malik's one-woman play "Unveiled" breaks down these stereotypes and the harmful impact they have on the Muslim community, and works to produce a much needed counter-narrative.

COURTESY PHOTO / 16TH STREET THEATER

Malik performed "Unveiled" on March 7 at the Wright Memorial Theatre. The play was co-sponsored by the Charles P. Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life, the Middle East Studies Department and the Center for Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity, and was one of the last installments in Middlebury's 21st Century Theatre Festival. Associate Professor of Theatre Claudio Medeiros and Assistant Professor of Theatre Michole Biancosino were motivated to organize the festival by a desire to bring diverse theater voices from New York and Chicago to Middlebury. They specifically chose to feature "Unveiled" in order to give audiences an opportunity to "see themselves onstage and give other students insight on experiences [of people in the Muslim community] without putting the onus on Muslim students on this campus," Biancosino said.

Indeed, for many students, Muslim and non-Muslim alike, Malik's performance was one of their first times seeing a veiled Muslim woman acting on stage. Furthermore, for many Muslim-Americans, watching Rohina's play is one of the only times they have seen themselves represented positively and accurately within the media, a problem which Biancosino acknowledged, calling it a "hole in the theatrical canon."

Audiences of "Unveiled" were invited to drink a cup of tea before the show started. In this way, the audience was able to immerse themselves fully into the content of the play, in which Malik told the stories of five different Muslim women — all veiled, but from very different ethnic and familial backgrounds — through monologues over cups of tea. Each cup of tea held cultural significance for the characters in the play and thus acted as a common thread tying the stories of all the main characters together. The drastically different ethnic backgrounds of the characters in the play showcased the breadth of the Muslim diaspora in the United States and served to offset the misconception that the Muslim-American experience is monolithic.

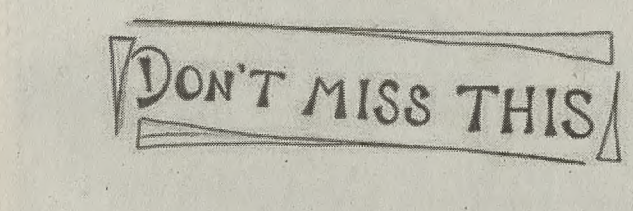
"Unveiled" was first produced and performed at the 16th Street Theater in New York in 2009. Since then, Malik has travelled across the country and around the world, performing "Unveiled" in a variety of different venues, from theatres to universities to mosques, churches and more. Malik herself emphasizes while this play is centered around Muslim experiences, it is relevant for people of all backgrounds. She explains that ultimately, her mission is to educate people and combat ignorance. Thus, she finds it necessary to perform her play in as many different places as possible, and that getting to witness moments of enlightenment felt by her audience members makes the hassle of traveling while Muslim "worth it." Indeed, for Malik, one of the most powerful aspects of theater is the connection created between the actor and the audience as they experience the play together. "Theatre is sacred because it's live," she said.

COURTESY PHOTO / 16TH STREET THEATER

Over the course of the one-hour long play, Malik packs in a lot of social commentary. She dives headfirst into topics such as sexual assault, hate crimes, bigotry, feminism, racism, colonization and so much more. "[Unveiled] is a great play for having a conversation about the state of politics in America," Biancosino said. The stories featured in the play, Rohina explained, are inspired by true events, both experiences of her own and experiences of her friends and the greater Muslim community. Rohina wrote the play out of a desire to share these experiences with others.

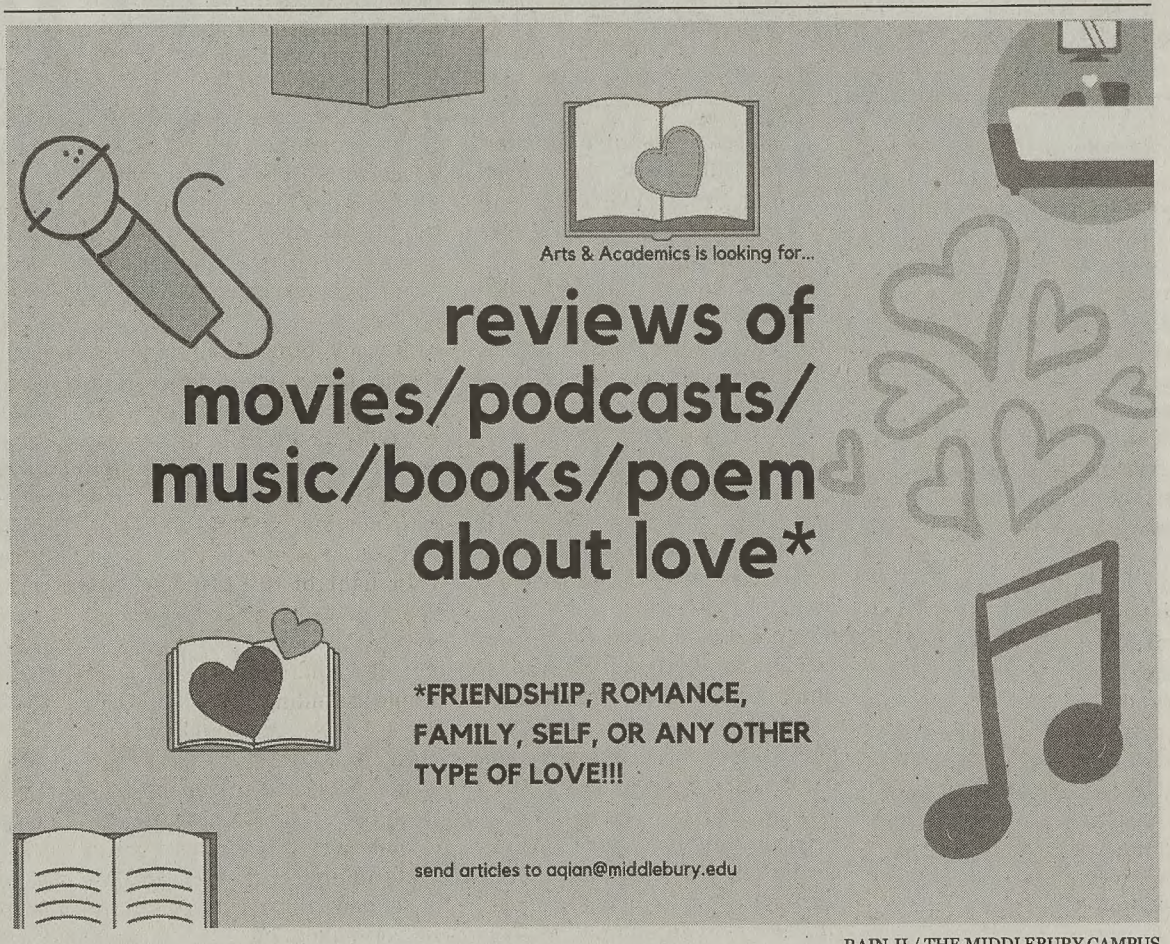
Saturday night's showing of "Unveiled" was not the first time Middlebury students were exposed to the play. There were some students in the audience that had previously read "Unveiled" as part of their class "Contemporary Women Playwrights." Wengel Kifle '20 was among these students. According to Kifle, her class had mixed responses to the play, some saying that its structure differed too much from their expectations of theater, given its monologue format and minimal narrative. However, for Kiffle, both reading and watching the play was a powerful experience. "[I] was already aware of a lot of the hate delivered upon the Muslim community in the United States and in general after 9/11," she said. "[I] hadn't had a lot of exposure to the personal pain that the Muslim community was going through and the emotions behind all of that."

Within the context of this play, the concept of the veil refers to the ignorance many people have towards the Muslim community, and the blind hatred that stems from it. In the last scene of the play, Malik's character begs a character that committed a hate crime against her to "remove the veil from [his] heart", and ultimately, that is what she allows the audience to do as well.



In response to the college's measures surrounding the coronavirus outbreak in the United States, all campus art events will be canceled due to restrictions on visitors and gatherings through April 12.

As of now, the Mahaney Arts Center will send out a gift certificate which will be valid through the end of 2020-2021 season if patrons previously bought tickets to any art events. The Box Office will follow up in the coming days, and hopes to bring back some of the artists at a later date. Visitors can access the information and updates on the Arts Center's website.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RAIN JI / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

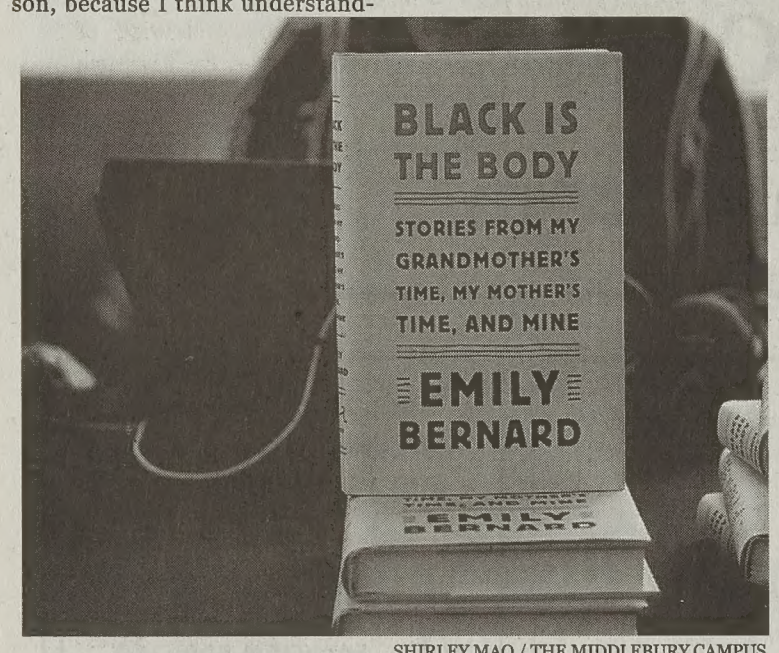
Opening doors, starting conversations: 'Black is the Body'

By REGINA FONTANELLI
Opinions Editor

In August, 1994 Emily Bernard was almost fatally stabbed in a coffee shop near her university. It was a few days before her birthday and she sat down at her college town's coffee shop to write a paper for a class in the American Studies Program at Yale. It was a regular night until a balding man (who she describes as 'Gallagher'-esque) took out a hunting knife and proceeded to stab her and six other people in what one news outlet described as a "blood bath." Yet, Bernard can't seem to find anger at the man. Despite the trauma it brought her and the medical issues she had to endure later on, she tells her therapist that it "wasn't personal," because she knew the man who stabbed her was not in his right mind.

I'm saying all this to tell you that Bernard is a generous person, because I think understanding that is important to understanding her talk. If you've read the introduction to her book, "Black Is the Body: Stories from My Grandmother's Time, My Mother's Time, and Mine," or even her author bio on the jacket, you know Bernard is most interested in "looking at 'blackness at its border, where it meets whiteness, in fear and hope, in anguish and love.'" She's dedicated much of her adult life to studying Carl Van Vechten, a white man who played a critical role in supporting the Harlem Renaissance. In her slideshow, she includes a picture he took of his dear friend Zora Neale Hurston, reciting a joke of hers about Van Vechten — "If Carl was a people instead of a person, I could then say, these are my people."

Bernard is someone who believes in friendship, in its powers and in its ability to incur change.



SHIRLEY MAO / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

SHIRLEY MAO / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Bernard is someone who believes in friendship, in its powers and in its ability to incur change. She writes that she was looking to "contribute to the American racial drama" in a way that was true to life as she lived it. Her talk, like her book, is her truth. She was opening a door without closing any behind her.

Bernard is someone who believes in friendship, in its powers and in its ability to incur change.

"I believe in the power of intimacy and in the tender contract of conversation," she said. "I believe they have the potential to transform us. Racism is systemic and institutional, but people invent systems that create and inhabit institutions."

Yet, as much as she believes in the power and ability of friendship, she also believes in its limitations. Bernard strongly believes that it is not the responsibility of people of color to educate white people.

Bernard, in response to a question posed by Lynn Travnikova '20, pointed out the importance of self-care under our current regime. "We have to really take care of ourselves the best we can," she said. "That's the most important thing."

It can feel confusing to reconcile her advice: too often in conversations around interracial friendships people of color are burdened with the feeling that they are responsible for their white friends' re-education on race-related issues. Self-care and restoration tend to be painfully neglected. But Bernard is not arguing for one or the other. She's doing something else, acknowledging this oft-forgotten grey area where friendships can simultaneously be helpful, but also not anyone's job.

Emily Bernard is a person who can forgive someone who stabbed her, who can laugh at her white friend's ignorance (as she shared in her talk and her book), and is someone who really, really believes in the power of interacial friendships. While I think that's beautiful for her, I don't think that's right or beautiful for everybody. As individual humans, we're inherently going to have different responses to the confusing and heart wrenching drama we find ourselves and our country to be locked in. From workshopping with Bernard beforehand, seeing the thoughtful way she approached each of us, as individuals, I have a feeling she would feel the same way.

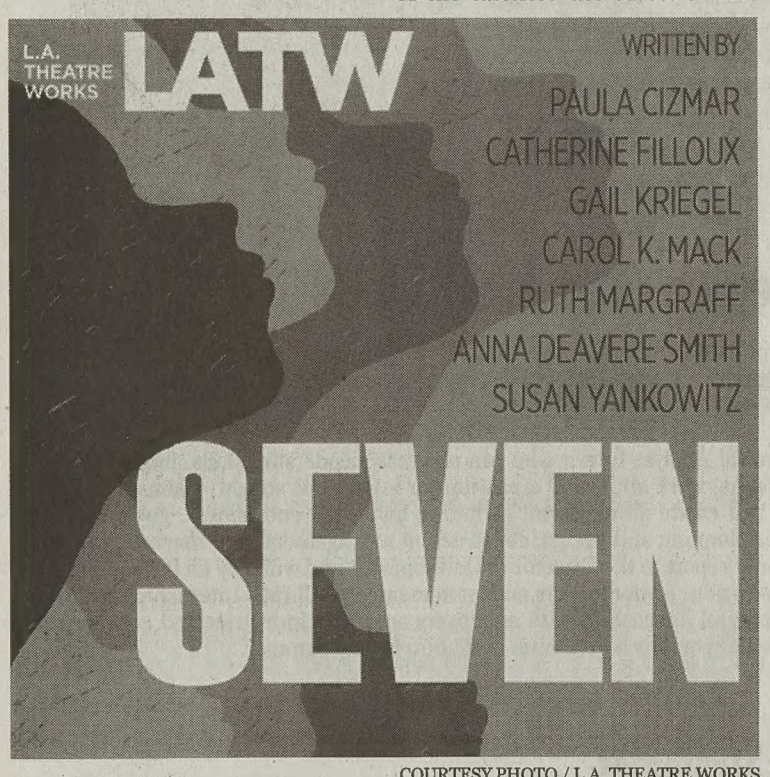
Bernard's speech was not about declaring a 'right way' or invalidating the tactics of others. In the introduction to her book, she writes that she was looking to "contribute to the American racial drama" in a way that was true to life as she lived it. Her talk, like her book, is her truth. She was opening a door without closing any behind her.

'SEVEN' CELEBRATES STORIES OF WOMEN CHANGEMAKERS

By EDYTH MOLDOW
Contributing Writer

Imagine feeling silenced, voiceless. Imagine feeling as though even if you were to speak, no one would care to hear what you had to say, much less act on it, no matter the importance of your words.

Through a magnificent mirage of stories, switching back and forth between tales across the globe, the audience peers into the lives of women who risked life-threatening obstacles to improve the lives of women in their respective corners of the earth. Their bravery and empathy shines through the excellence of the talented actresses: Jenni-



COURTESY PHOTO / L.A. THEATRE WORKS

ing front, a simple projection backdrop and a telephone. Each woman stood motionless at a microphone, waiting for her turn to speak. And the play came to life. The audience is transported to Russia by Marina Pisklakova-Parker, where women victims of domestic violence were shockingly common, and then to Cambodia by Mu Sochua, where young girls were often victims of human trafficking. We travel with Farida Azizi to Afghanistan to empower rural women and with Muhtar Mai and Hafsat Abiola-Costella to Nigeria and Pakistan to fight for women's right to education. Inez McCormack tells the story of promoting peace and equality in Northern Ireland and, finally, Anabella de León shows us how, as a young woman from Guatemala, it is possible for women to accomplish great feats such as becoming entrepreneurial leaders and running for political office.

Asked about the aspect of SEVEN that felt most meaningful, audience member and prospective theatre student Marijke Stiffler '23 noted the "overarching theme of women supporting women." "Too often in the media do we see women attacking each other, like Wendy Williams going after Ashley Graham for changing her son's diaper in a Staples or Fox News correspondents ripping apart sexual assault survivors," Stiffler said. "The fact that all of the stories were interconnected in some fashion emphasized the push for unity as it showed me that we have more in common with each other than is easily visible; moreover, it showed that nothing negative will come from unconditionally supporting the women around you through their struggles, as they will more likely than not turn around and support you in return."

In light of SEVEN, how can we, members of the college community, mobilize in support of human rights? Maybe it is as simple as finding a way to tune in to the silence, the smaller communities where the voices have been repressed and can no longer be heard. By listening, we can become better advocates for the rights of those in need, inspiring a new global movement of change-makers: us.

In the documentary play "SEVEN," L.A. Theatre Works explores the true stories of seven women who found their voices by standing up for the rights of women, children and families all over the world. Despite the efforts of their peers to silence them, they persisted and overcame culturally-induced adversities to protect the well-being of those around them. By speaking out, they ultimately changed their lives and the lives of those around them for the better.

L.A. Theatre Works, a not-for-profit American media arts organization, was founded in Los Angeles in 1984. As the foremost radio theatre company in the United States for over thirty years, the organization works tirelessly to create both classic and contemporary plays that are immersive, educational and imaginative. SEVEN checks each of these boxes and more.

fer Shelton, Tess Lina, Maritxell Carrero, Ellis Greer, Laila Ayad, Shannon Holt and Lovlee Carroll, and through the words of seven award-winning playwrights.

Associate Professor of Theatre Cláudio Medeiros commented on the play's powerful stories and impressive acting. "Laila Ayad (Farida Azizi / Afghanistan) and Lovlee Carroll (Mukhtar Mai / Pakistan) were particularly effective in a format that for the most part keeps the actor aware that she is a narrator as well, and focuses 'living the role' on the voice and its ability to express a range of emotions, from pain or grief to joy and strength," he said. "I think we made a very good choice with SEVEN. I am delighted that my students could see it, from a human perspective and as student actors."

From the opening moments of the play, the audience is entranced by the simple stage set-up: seven microphones, all fac-

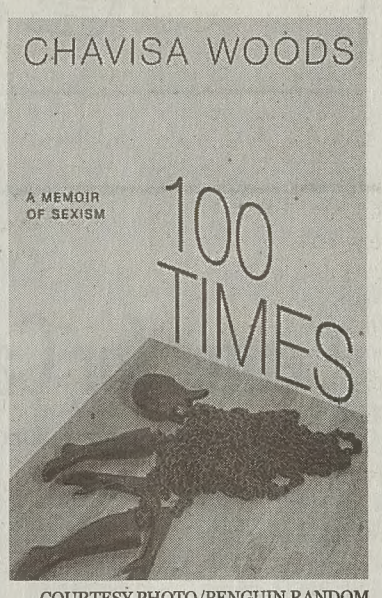
The librarian is in

By KATRINA SPENCER
Guest Columnist

"100 Times" is a compilation of autobiographical vignettes in which the author tells of the many times she has been sexually harassed, assaulted and/or discriminated against from the time of her childhood and up until her mid-thirties. The author is a white, queer woman who is based in Brooklyn and she also spent time growing up in the Midwest. The truth is that the stories are shocking, disconcerting and terribly familiar all at once. Unfortunately, they do not strike me as "out of the ordinary" and likely wouldn't strike many American women as anomalous. For the record, I'm not proud of this assessment. I'm not proud to live in a society that desensitizes me to sexual harassment, assault and discrimination due to their prevalence, and I imagine this is one of the reasons this book exists: to shake us awake, causing us to recognize, evaluate and interrogate what we have accepted as "normal."

The work is invaluable as it highlights the multitude of unwelcome and unfair behavior women are socialized to tolerate and endure. It also raises questions regarding public violation of bodily autonomy and personal space. It features moments of gaslighting and the relentless testing of boundaries many women encounter as they assert themselves in interactions with men. In her youth, for example, adults told Woods that boys' violence towards her was reflective of their interest in her. She recounts experiences in which her expressed disinterest in a man's sexual advances seem to embolden their pursuits, as though her "no" is not the end of the conversation, but rather the beginning of a negotiation. She has also been iced out of professional enrichment/development opportunities because she is perceived as a threat or a liability on the sole basis of her sex.

I'd recommend this work to any woman who has been admonished for turning down a man's interest in her — "Go easy on him" — who has been chastised regarding her clothing choices — "She was asking for it" — who has been catcalled in the streets — "It was a compliment! What's your problem?" — or who has had an appropriately angry reaction to someone disrespecting limits she has clearly set. I'd also recommend it to all men, especially those who liberally use the phrases "It was just a joke," "I was just kidding around" and/or "Don't take it so seriously." Also to any man who has ever uttered the phrase, "You're not that cute anyway" in an attempt to shake a woman's confidence following her rejection of his advances.



COURTESY PHOTO/PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE

The work is invaluable as it highlights the multitude of unwelcome and unfair behavior women are socialized to tolerate and endure.

Readers should know that the book includes retellings of attempted rape, aggravated assault and nonconsensual drugging (i.e., roofie-ing) and I wouldn't recommend the work to anyone who may be triggered by these themes. Another work in our collection that features autobiographical stories from women who have been sexually vicitimized is "Not That Bad: Dispatches from Rape Culture," edited by Roxane Gay. If the book could grant me one wish, it would be a cursory roadmap that would tell us how to build toward better. But it's not the victim's responsibility to also provide the solution.

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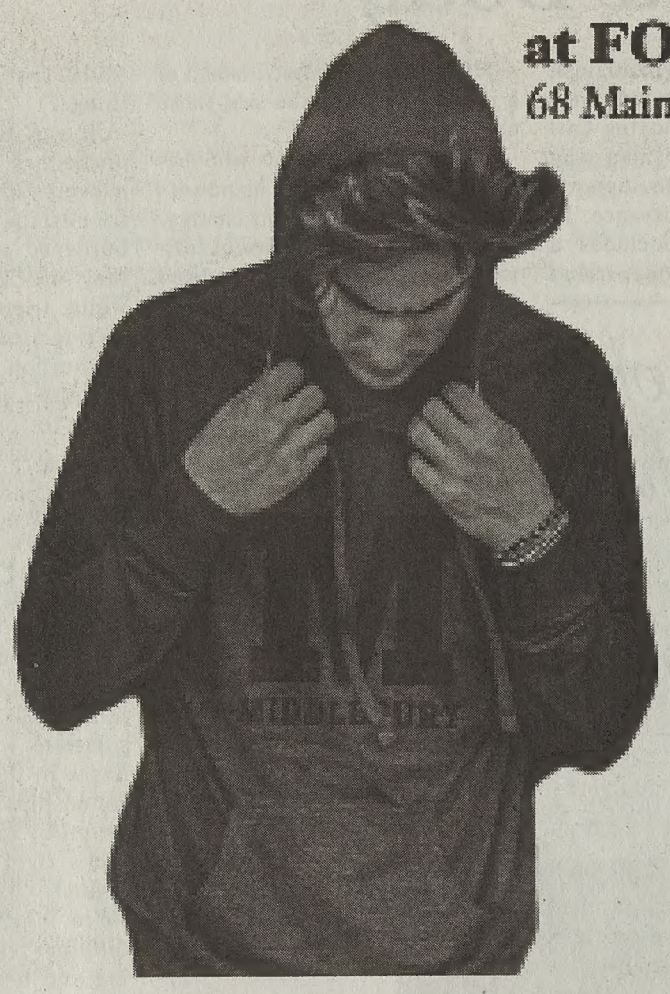

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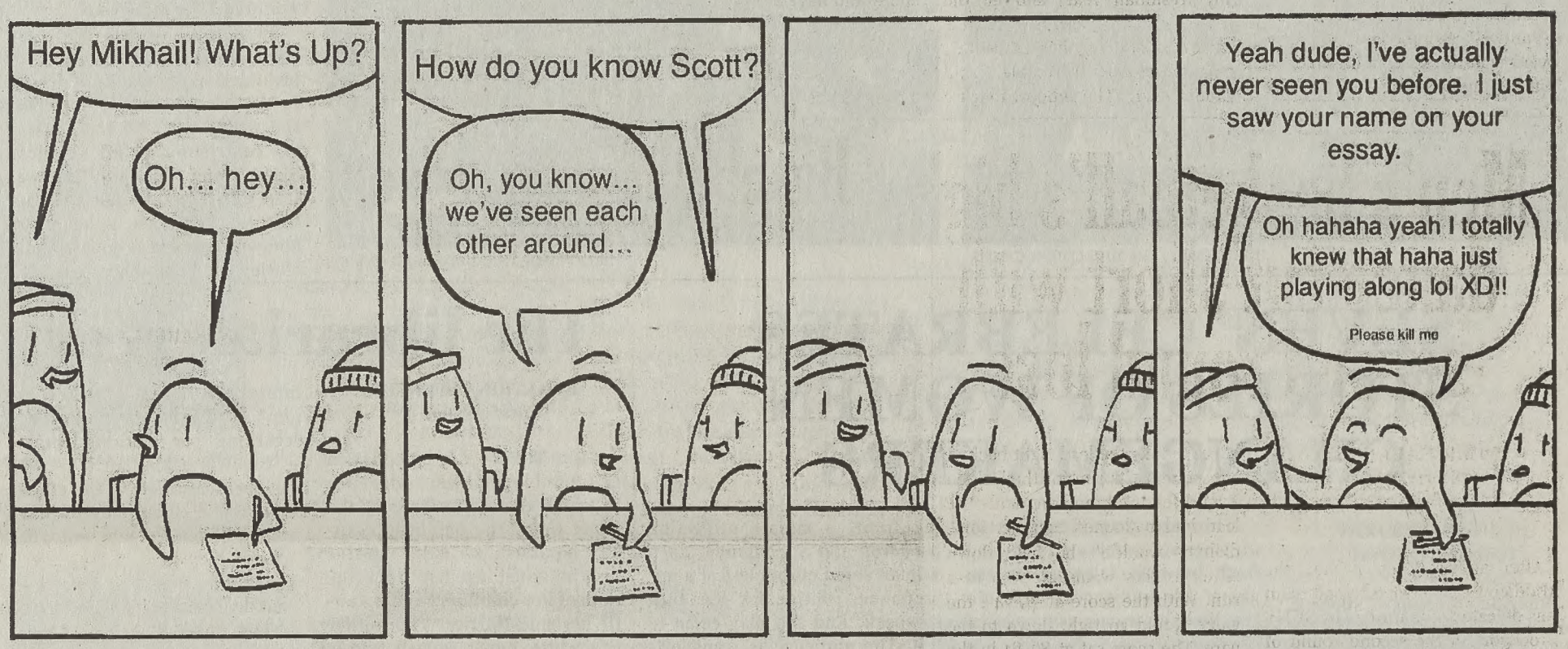
Hey Mikhail! What's Up?
Oh... hey...
How do you know Scott?
Oh, you know... we've seen each other around...
Yeah dude, I've actually never seen you before. I just saw your name on your essay.
Oh hahaha yeah I totally knew that haha just playing along lol XD!!
Please kill me

THIN ICE by ARTHUR FURNISS

Center for Careers & Internships

See these opportunities and more at go/handshake.

Workday

Location: San Mateo, CA
Term: Rotation Program
Deadline: March 15

Workday thinks it is important to believe in what you're doing and to have FUN in the work place (it's even one of their core values!). To create the most well-rounded engineers ready to rise to any technical challenge, Workday has created a 12-month personal and professional development program to introduce new hires to the Workday tech stack through a series of rotations and specialized trainings. While the Rotation Program focuses on back-end engineering, participants can expect to get their hands on everything from Java to DevOps.

CLIMB Program - East West Partners

Location: Denver, CO
Term: Summer 2020
Deadline: March 26

Real Estate Financial Analyst Intern who can showcase leadership skills, integrity, interpersonal strengths, work ethic, and a passion for learning is sought. Gain exposure to all aspects of real estate development including financing, entitlement, government approvals, master planning and design, construction management, and marketing. The intern will primarily report to the Director of Development and will play an instrumental supportive role to various senior leaders and team members. CLIMB Internships are 10-week, paid, meaningful internships with employers across all industries and non-profit organizations. Pay is generally a minimum of $4,600 for the summer.

Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County

Location: Middlebury, VT
Term: Summer 2020
Deadline: March 20

The Community Climate & Energy intern(s) will help to promote a healthy economy through deep carbon reduction in Addison County, VT by working with community organizations and local governmental officials on important projects, building policy expertise and gaining valuable professional development skills. This is an excellent opportunity to help design and implement climate and energy projects while working for a community-based nonprofit and other organizations.

ClearPath Strategies

Location: Oakland, CA
Term: Summer
Deadline: March 30

ClearPath Strategies is a boutique research and consulting firm. Our mission is to promote game-changing leaders and progressive forces around the world who tirelessly strive to make life better for more people. We provide research-based strategic advice and campaign support to politicians, business leaders, and advocacy organizations around the world. We help good people do great things that impact people in a positive way, and we have fun doing it. An alumnae kindly shared this opportunity and she's very interested in helping students.

Better Middlebury Partnership

Location: Middlebury, VT
Term: Summer
Deadline: March 20

Seeking a creative, energetic, self-motivated Special Events/Marketing Intern to assist with planning, promotion, and execution of events and programs to help mitigate impacts the Summer 2020 construction will have on the Middlebury community. Must be able to work independently, on deadline, and be a great communicator. Coordinate pop-up and evening events; develop regional marketing and shopping incentive plans, and a random acts of kindness campaign; execute digital media promotion; and more. This important position is tasked with helping keep the community's spirits up during a challenging phase of downtown construction, so a positive attitude and fun spirit is essential.

Brigham and Women's Hospital, Cichowski Laboratory

Location: Boston, MA
Term: Full-time job
Deadline: April 28

The lab, within the Dana-Farber Harvard Cancer Center, utilizes basic biochemical, cellular and mouse modeling strategies to elucidate the mechanisms that promote cancer. They are looking for a research technician to help accelerate the translation of basic science into clinical applications. Experience in some molecular biology techniques is necessary. Experience in working with mice is preferred.

Frances VanderMeer: Leaving a wake at all levels of competition

COURTESY PHOTO

By NIAMH CARTY
Sports Writer

Senior Frances VanderMeer has had a collegiate athletic career many would dream of.

A captain of the women's swim team, she has earned All-NESCAC praise, attended NCAAs three out of her four years here and broken her own school record. For VanderMeer, though, swimming is about so much more than an impressive list of accolades.

"I don't think any of this would have been possible without the team that I have," said VanderMeer. "It's great to break your own records and go to NCAAs, but if you don't have a team behind you, it doesn't mean nearly as much"

VanderMeer has been swimming for as long as she can remember. Her mom rowed at Cornell and her dad was a member of the surf team at the University of California, Santa Barbara — swimming was a skill they wanted their children to learn as early as possible.

VanderMeer joined her first competitive swim team at age seven. But her high school — Notre Dame High School in Elmira, New York — did not have a swim team when VanderMeer began attending (she played tennis instead). The summer before her sophomore year, VanderMeer, her parents and another family worked to create a swim team, which started out as a mere squad of five. Because that team was so small, Middlebury has been her most authentic team experience.

She did not always plan to swim in college; during her sophomore year of high school, her parents, both being college athletes, encouraged her to pursue collegiate swimming.

VanderMeer was unsure, as she had not yet experienced the bond of being on a team and wondered if swimming in college was something she wanted. Her parents knew from experience, however, how different swimming for a college team would be than VanderMeer's club and high school experiences.

She expresses her gratitude for having decided to swim in college. "All of those people who were there [my freshman year] and all the people who are here now and everyone in between has made this sport absolutely incredible," said VanderMeer. "The support that we have for each other as a team, that is what has made this special, and that has been the best part of all of it."

Being able to experience the dynamics of being a part of a close, supportive team has been more meaningful to Vandermeer than her accomplishments in the pool. Her numerous accolades, however, cannot go unnoticed; she will be attending her third NCAA Division III Championship this year from March 18 to March 21. She earned a qualifying 50-yard freestyle time of 23.60 in the NESCAC tournament, which was her second-straight conference title in the event. She also earned her third straight All-NESCAC honors in the 50-yard backstroke, while simultaneously breaking her own school record in the event with a time of 25.69.

Senior teammate Hannah Kredich '20 spoke about Frances's strong work ethic. "Even when she went abroad to Bordeaux the fall of her junior year and did not have the opportunity to train as much as she would have at Middlebury, she came back even more determined to improve and work hard, and because of that fire I don't think it is a coincidence that that was the first year she got an individual title," said Kredich.

Coach Bob Rueppel is excited to watch Frances compete in her final NCAA championship, "Our goal is to achieve what she has never done before so I am very excited to see her perform," said Rueppel. "I am confident she will have a great week at NCAA's."

Though Frances is preparing for the competitive race, she stresses that her goal "has never been to get to the [nationals] meet. [My] primary goal was to have fun with it and see where that took me and funny enough, when that's your goal and you don't put pressure on yourself, good things tend to happen."

VanderMeer's composed demeanor carries into her leadership position as a captain of the team. "She has an amazing presence on deck at meets and is someone that, even when she has not had a good swim, will be the first to get right back behind the lanes to cheer for her teammates and to offer words of support and encouragement to anyone who needs it," said Kredich.

Coach Rueppel also commented on VanderMeer's leadership skills "Her impact on the group has been incredible," said Rueppel. "My hope is that her legacy will continue after she graduates."

VanderMeer is an International Politics and Economics major, as well as a member of the Middlebury Consulting Group and the Academic Judicial Board. She will be moving to Washington, D.C. this summer to work at Accenture Federal Services, a consulting firm with a focus on the federal government.

In terms of swimming, VanderMeer plans to take a break from the pool for a little while. Without her teammates, swimming would be different. She can see herself coaching in the future, but in the short-term, VanderMeer plans to play more tennis. Swimming will always be important to VanderMeer's life, though.

"This sport has taught me so much in terms of work ethic, teamwork, getting along with other people, and leading a large group of people, and those lessons will be with me forever," said VanderMeer. "And in that way, I guess swimming will always be a part of me and what I do."

Men's basketball's big dance cut short with second round loss

By MICHAEL SEGEL
Sports Writer

After a victory on Friday, the Middlebury men's basketball team was defeated on Saturday by SUNY Brockport in the second round of the NCAA Tournament. Their season is now over.

The two teams stayed close for the entire contest, with Middlebury overcoming an eight point deficit early in the first half and trailing by only two going into the break. They proceeded to come into the second half on a full head of steam thanks in large part to **Matt Folger** '20 who provided eight points in the span of a 13-5 run, giving the Panthers a 50-44 advantage.

That lead didn't last long, as Brockport came back on a 10-0 surge to take the lead right back. A subsequent 9-2 run for the Golden Eagles followed, and suddenly the lead had ballooned to nine. Middlebury wouldn't be held down either as they would go on a 10-2 run. With the score at 75-74 , the game would go right down to the wire. The score sat at 83-81 in the final seconds, giving the Panthers an opportunity to come away with a miracle victory but couldn't pull it off, falling by a final score of 84-81.

Griffin Kornaker '21 contributed a career-high 28 points in the loss, **Jack Farrell** '21 had 18 points, and Folger put together an all around solid performance with 16 points, 9 rebounds, 3 steals, and 3 blocks. Middlebury ends their season on a sour note, but with an impressive 21-6 record.

Baseball opens season, going 2-1 in Texas Series

MICHAEL BORNSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By ISABELLA MARCUS
Sports Writer

The baseball team capped the week with a 2–1 record against Southwestern University in its first non-conference series of the year.

The Southwestern Pirates put up three runs in the first inning of the series opener -- all runs coming with two outs. The Panthers got on the board in the top of the sixth when infielder **Justin Han** '20 was walked and outfielder **Henry Strmecki** '21 scored on two errors. Two runners were stranded in the top of the seventh as the Panthers were unable to tack on a game-tying run.

Trailing 2–0 after the fourth inning of game two, a walk from infielder **Hayden Smith** '20 and a two-run homer from infielder **Andrew Gough** '22 got the fifth-inning rally started for the Panthers. With the bases loaded, senior infielder **Kevin Woodring** hit a grand slam to put Middlebury ahead, 7–2. The Panthers added a run in the top of the sixth, ultimately winning 8–4.

Pitcher **Alex Price** '22 earned the win over five innings, allowing just two runs and four hits with seven strikeouts.

In the series rubber match, the Panthers pushed across three runs in the top of the 11th inning, putting the finishing touches on a 9-8 victory. Pitcher **Drew Martinson** '20 picked up the win on two scoreless innings, striking out three.

Track and Field records podium finishes ahead of NCAAs

By JORDAN HOWELL
Sports Wrtiter

The Panthers recently participated in the Tufts National Qualifying Meet on Saturday, Mar. 7. The non-scoring meet featured quite a few impressive performances.

Both the men and the women's squads competed hard. In the 800-meter run, Nicole Johnson '22 captured second and **Emily Bulczynski** '22 captured fourth. Other impressive performers were **Meg Wilson** '20, **Katie Glew** '21, and **Katelyn Pease** '22. The women's 4 X 400-meter relay "A" team captured first.

"I am so proud of how we did as a team this weekend," said **Grace Desmond** '23, a member of the 4 X 400 "A" team. "We went out and competed hard and were able to drop over 5 seconds from our time at D3 New England's. We had our eyes on NCAAs and just wanted to go out and do our best!"

On the men's side, **Will Meyer** '20 came in sixth place in the 1-mile run. **Jonathan Fisher** '20 placed second in the high jump event and **Nathaniel Klein** '21 got sixth in the shot-put event.

"High jump didn't go quite as well as I had wanted, but it was still a solid performance," said Fisher. "I had put together a string of really good practices and meets...and was hoping to set a new personal best."

Up next will be the fated NCAA Championships which will take place on Friday, Mar. 13 and Saturday, Mar. 14. "The team is looking forward to nationals with great anticipation," said Fisher. "Though only a few of us are going to compete, we will all be watching and cheering on our teammates from campus. We also have a number of first-time qualifiers, which is always exciting to see and bodes well for the team in the future."

"We are all so excited for the upcoming NCAA Championships!" said Desmond. "I think we will just continue to do some fine tuning this week, making sure we are taking care of the small details to gear up for Friday night!"

Women's Lax Flexes Muscles with Double Header Sweep

By CAPTAIN RUDOLPH
Sports Writer

This team is dominant. The Panthers showed up on Saturday and Sunday as they produced two road wins that extended their current win streak to 25 straight games. The women's lacrosse team is firing on all cylinders and it seems as if no one can stand in their way, even this early in the season.

On Saturday, the women traveled to Connecticut College. The lopsided 13-3 first half set the Panthers up to calmly cruise to a 16-5 final game score. The frightening offensive duo that includes **Emily Barnard** '20 and **Julia Earley** '22 thrashed the Camels' defense by recording 7 points each. The Panther defense didn't let much past them, but in the rare chances they did, goalie **Julia White** '20 stepped up and made 4 great saves.

"At this point in the season we are excited to have 3 strong wins under our belt and are looking forward to unlocking our teams potential as we continue to face tough opponents," said Barnard, team captain and leading point scorer. "We have an amazing group of 28 girls that connect really well on and off the field and just want to take advantage of every opportunity we get to improve!"

The Sunday game included even more fervor as the Panthers relentlessly overpowered Springfield. The early lead was continued by an onslaught of scoring for Middlebury that left the final score at 23-4. This game can truly be considered a team effort as six different players tallied a hat trick, including first-year's **Susan Rowley** '23 and **Nikki Mormile** '23.

"In terms of how the freshmen are feeling, we've all been looking forward to the start of the season since the fall, so it is super exciting for it to be finally here and to have our first college lacrosse games," said Rowley, leading scorer among first-years. "We can't wait for the rest of a fun and hopefully successful spring!" said Rowley.

The Panthers seem to show no signs of slowing down. Their next game will be this coming Saturday, when they host Trinity at 2:00.

Field hockey combats human trafficking in India

By ERIN KELLY
Sports Editor

A 17-year-old girl, the oldest of six children, was offered the chance to go to leave her town and make money for herself and her family. She was brought by a male acquaintance to Delhi, where she proceeded to work as a maid for a family. By the time she realized she wasn't being paid, it was too late. Her "friend" was long gone with the money, and she was left with only the hope of being rescued.

This is the labor trafficking story shared by one of the 106 girls who attended the second annual East India Hockey Project (EIHP), a weeklong field hockey camp and tournament aimed at combating trafficking by helping female athletes ages 14–17 gain self-confidence and leadership skills to bring back to their communities. The EIHP is run through a partnership between Middlebury College, the US State Department, the Indian Consulate and the anti-trafficking NGO Shakti Vahini. It was led by head coach Katherine DeLorenzo and assistant coach Rachel Palumbo, with support from five alumnae who attended the first camp in November of 2018 and seven current players: senior Kelly Coyle, junior Erin Nicholas and sophomores Grace Harlan, Riley Marchin, Grace Murphy, Hannah Sullivan and Joan Vera. The program is based in Jharkhand, one of the most remote and impoverished regions in India. Each girl who attended the camp is at a high risk for human trafficking.

"On the surface level, it seems like we're just playing field hockey, like what is that doing?" Coyle said. "But it's the small, intangible things about telling the girls to speak up, plus their additional workshops [that teach them] how to use their voice in all those scenarios, that make a difference. Seeing all that together, it made it seem like the impact was a lot bigger than just coming to the field and playing hockey."

Although the camp only ran from January 27 to February 3, the field hockey girls arrived in India on the 5th, along with eight members of Middlebury's BOLD Scholars, a women's leadership program. The students all traveled to Delhi and Kolkata together, and while the athletes helped with the EIHP, the BOLD Scholars worked at a school peace fair. During their travels, Baishaki Taylor, vice president for student affairs, and Rebekah Irwin, the director and curator the Special Collections & Archives, taught a special winter term class for the students, focusing on gender in Indian society.

"It's really easy to come in and do a workshop and leave," Taylor said. "Given our commitment and our mission statement, we want Middlebury students to be able to leave this campus and be ready to address and actually make meaningful contributions to the communities that they live in, no matter where it is. [We want them to] be able to address some of the world's most challenging problems, not just go in and do a project. The class part provided some glimpses to get a sense of the differences and similarities the world's largest democracy has [in common] with the world's strongest democracy."

It is estimated that over 30,000 young women are trafficked each year from Jharkhand alone, and the EIHP aims to combat this tradition. In addition to practicing field hockey from 8 a.m to 4 p.m each day, the players attended informative workshops. The Shakti Vahini leaders taught the girls practical skills to bring home, such as learning how to spot human traffickers, how to intervene in different situations and how to record evidence on a phone to build a case against a trafficker. At night, the girls were encouraged to share their stories with each other through performative arts, and at the end of the camp, four stories were selected to be professionally reproduced.

"The girls were all inspirations to everyone who traveled from our team," said Nicholas. "We kept saying the whole trip that we were probably getting out of it more than they were because we were learning from them the whole time. They have been through so much, and then would come to the field everyday so excited to learn. They'd be dancing in circles and laughing and having a great time and finding the joy in every little moment that they had."

At the end of the week, the Panthers hosted a tournament for the girls, an event attended by local press and students and even Marie Royce, the assistant secretary of state for educational and cultural affairs. On the last day, the five most outstanding campers were invited to come to Middlebury in April, where they will have the opportunity to attend the spring field hockey training camp and immerse themselves in the American culture.

"One of the girls who I coached all week had won the 'Most Outstanding Defensive Player' award had a smile on her face the entire week," Coyle said. "She was always giggling, always laughing. But on the last day, she started [crying]. One of the interpreters explained that she had never experienced this kind of attention or award or recognition in her life and it was completely overwhelming for her. [She] received awards and people [were] paying attention to her and honoring her in a way she had never [had] before in [her] life."

COURTESY PHOTO

COURTESY PHOTO

MICHAEL BORNSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Men's lacrosse pulls away against Conn. College, grabs 20–8 victory

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Senior Sports Editor

"One of the best parts of lacrosse is that it's a game of runs," said captain midfielder, **Jake Madnick** '20. "You can go up 6–0 on a team, and then all of a sudden, you look up at the scoreboard, and it's 6–5".

Winning games, according to Madnick, is about how one reacts to such runs.

Men's lacrosse hosted Connecticut College on Saturday, March. 7 and defeated their opponents from New London, 20–8. But the final score doesn't capture the struggle that ensued in the first half and how the Panthers kept their composure despite some successful runs by the Camels.

When the hosts planted a 3–0 lead in the first quarter, Connecticut College cut the lead to two, amplifying their bench. They gained even further momentum by forcing a turnover and saving a mid-range snipe by Middlebury attackman **A.J Kucinski** '20. While the Panthers scored with one second remaining in the first, the Camels won the following faceoff, drew two penalties, and eventually buried another goal to set the score, 4–2.

The blue-and-white, however, responded over the course of the second quarter by tallying two unanswered goals. With two minutes left before halftime and the score at 7–3 Panthers, **Tyler Forbes** '22 and **Danny Jacobs** '20 snuck in some goals of their own before the Camels scored again with 35 seconds left in the period.

But if lacrosse is a game of runs, and any side can instantly gain momentum, such volatility cuts both ways. While it's possible for the losing team to pick up steam, the winning team could expand its lead in a flash.

"[The third quarter] was one of our best quarters this year," said Madnick.

The Panthers outscored their Connecticut visitors 7–2 that period and would tack on an additional four in the fourth. Attackman **Michael McCormick** '20 tallied four goals throughout the game. Forbes earned three.

"[McCormick's] got a left-handed shot that I don't think any goalie in the country at any division could save," said Madnick. "He was firing on all cylinders against [Connecticut College]".

William Ryan '23 and **Will Zink** '23 would earn their first collegiate scores in the game as well. Backup goalie **Finn O'Connor** '23 also saw some action.

"It was really cool to see some of the younger guys get in the game and get some experience," said Madnick.

Such experience may prove useful in the season ahead.

Kagan and Bermingham Round Out Middlebury Careers

By MAX PADILLA
Photo Editor

This week part of the Men's Squash Team competed in The CSA Individual Championships. Two of Midd's own were selected to compete: **Jack Kagan** '20 and **Nick Bermingham** '20. Kagan competed in the Malloy North Division, while Bermingham in the Malloy West Division. Kagan lost out Andrew Lee from Trinity College in round 16, but took home the win in the consolation quarterfinals against Drexel's Jose Lopez. Bermingham also lost out to Owen Davis from the Naval Academy in round 16 but rebounded during the consolation quarterfinals, in a win against Haverford's Davis Chase. Both Panthers, however, were eliminated in the consolation semifinals. Kagan fell to Bowdoin's Deven Kanwal while Bermingham lost to Brown's Maximo Meyer.

Editor's note: Jack Kagan is a sports editor for The Campus. He was not involved in editing this article.

Women's Hockey Secures Bid at NCAAs, Revived After NESCAC Woes

By MAX PADILLA
Photo Editor

Middlebury hosted this year's NESCAC Women's Hockey Championship Series, which featured Hamilton, Colby, Amherst and the Panthers themselves. The blue-and-white competed against Hamilton College in the semifinals and won 2-1 on Saturday, March 7. In the finals, Middlebury lost to Amherst by a singular point with the final score at 2-1. Despite losing out at the last minute, the Panthers had an amazing season, finishing with a PCT of .906, higher than last years .625 and .875 the year before them. Of the 27 games that Middlebury played, they won 21 and lost only 3. Twice in the season they had a win streak longer than 7 games. The Panthers found enormous success this season, despite 16 of their 27 members being underclassmen. Hopefully the experience from this season will lead to even more victories next year.